

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER



VOLUME CXII, ISSUE 17

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

FEBRUARY 21, 2008

WWW.JHNEWSLETTER.COM



CONOR KEVIN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
A vote in favor of re-vamping StuCo relations with administrators passed easily.

Council says administrators are a roadblock

By KATLYN TORGERSON
News & Features Editor

Student Council passed a strongly worded resolution Tuesday that calls for a complete overhaul of its relations with University administrators.

The resolution was passed with a nearly unanimous vote, criticizing administrators for impeding or ignoring a number of the Council's initiatives.

The resolution comes after a

rocky start to the year, which included the senior class council having their funding frozen at one point last fall due to what Council President Scott Bierbryer termed "counter-productiveness" in an e-mail to the class presidents.

The resolution cites a number of failures in the administration's communication with the Council — including one which made it impossible for them to bring the rapper Ludacris to campus this weekend — along

with numerous demands for improvements.

"I feel like none of these are unreasonable," he told the Council. "And most of these were actually recommended by the administration," he added, citing a report in 2002 by Paula Burger, dean of undergraduate education.

Although the administration had not been formally presented with the resolution by press time, Burger and Susan Boswell, dean of student life, said that

they would be open to looking at a complete reformatting of the relationship between the administration and the Council.

"I think it's fair to say that relationships with Scott and some members of his executive staff are currently strained at best," Boswell said in an e-mail to the *News-Letter*.

The resolution points to a number of communication failures between the administration

CONTINUED ON PAGE A2

Wawa, Pike may be forced to relocate

Fraternities react to loss of sophomore housing exemption

By MARIE CUSHING
News & Features Editor

A controversial University decision to revoke the sophomore Greek housing exemption may make it difficult for several fraternities to keep their houses, according to some chapter presidents.

Attempts to overturn the decision by students resulted in the exemption being extended for a year beyond the original date.

"As the University has added more housing and upgraded current housing in regards to amenities and security, we can no longer in good conscience justify the Greek exemption as a legitimate alternative to University housing for sophomores," Dean of Student Life Susan Boswell said.

"Things are going to have to change in the future so we can afford our mortgage," said David Kurz, president of the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity more commonly known as Wawa.

Coordinator of Greek Life Rob Turning said that the decision was ultimately up to Boswell.

He said that fraternities "definitely came to me first with the complaint, but I can't make the decision."

CONTINUED ON PAGE A7

Fraternities see decline in pledge classes

Sororities have largest pledge numbers in three years

By MAX McKENNA
News & Features Editor

While sororities saw a drastic increase in pledges this year, most fraternities' recruitment numbers were down from previous years, some dramatically so.

The decrease is thought to be a result of both apathy on campus and new athletic policies.

"We haven't had the enthusiasm in recruiting that we've had in past years," said Alex King '09, president of Sigma Phi Epsilon. The fraternity had 19 pledges this rush season, down from 22 last year and 26 the year before.

David Kurz, president of Alpha Delta Phi, sees the decrease as stemming from new athletic policies.

CONTINUED ON PAGE A6

Students kick off Engineering Week



LAURA BITNER/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The Whiting School of Engineering commenced Engineering Week with "Tower Power," at which students built structures from spaghetti and marshmallows.

Spring Fair reels in Big Fish, Bone Thugs-n-Harmony

By MARIE CUSHING and JENNIFER CHOI
For The News-Letter

The announcement last week that late-'90s ska band Reel Big Fish would be this year's main-stage Spring Fair act came after at least one failed attempt at signing a different band, a deal that fell apart due to financial uncertainty.

Thanks to an increase in donations, Hopkins will also see a second group, Bone Thugs-n-Harmony, perform with Reel Big Fish

outdoors at Spring Fair on April 26. But some say that an even further increase in funding would help to attract higher-profile groups.

"In the past, we struggled with the decision of booking a hip-hop act or a rock act. This year we have both coming in one concert," executive co-chair senior Steven Farber said.

According to him, Spring Fair received several thousand more dollars in funding this year, but others argued that they should have received even more.

CONTINUED ON PAGE A2

Hopkins follows national trend of increased Adderall use

By STEPHANIE DELMAN
For The News-Letter

Come exam time, many students no longer need to rearrange schedules or change their plans to make study time — they now have prescription drugs.

The use of stimulants such as caffeine and Ritalin to improve students' ability to study is nothing new, but a national trend shows an alarming number of students are relying on prescription drugs — sometimes illegally — to increase their ability to focus.

Adderall is a pharmaceutical psycho-stimulant intended to treat at-

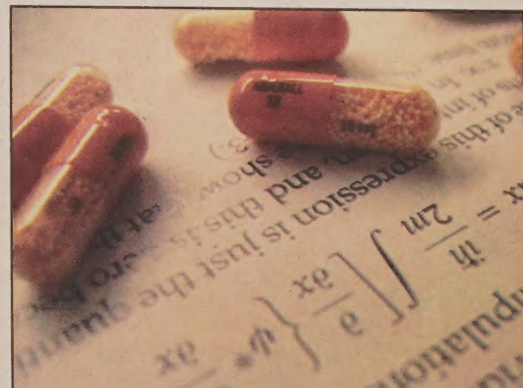
tention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADD or ADHD). Many students have been diagnosed with ADD or ADHD and take Adderall as an approved way to medicate their hyperactivity. But just as many students use the drug and others like it for their ability to boost or accelerate concentration.

Some students were willing to speak about their use of the drug, but did so on condition of anonymity.

According to one freshman, so many students look to buy Adderall during finals week that recreational drug dealers began to deal this "study drug" as well.

"Last semester, I had to look around

CONTINUED ON PAGE A7



BRITNI CROCKER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Hopkins students admit to using Adderall as a study aid.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

SPORTS

- The men's basketball team cinches a spot in the NCAA playoffs after sending Pennsylvania rival Muhlenberg packing, B12.
- Women's swimming takes first place in their last meet of the season, B11.



SCIENCE

- The term "cold-hearted" takes on a whole new meaning as the Johns Hopkins Hospital becomes one of four to use artificial hearts, B6.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Editorials	A10	Science	B6
Opinions	A11	Your N-L	B3
Calendar	B2	Cartoons	B9
Arts	B3	Sports	B12

Main Phone Number • 410.516.6000
news.letter@jhu.edu

Business/Advertising • 410.516.4228
business@jhunewsletter.com

http://www.jhunewsletter.com

From BSU to Baptist Bishop: one alum's story of perseverance

By HUSAIN DANISH
News-Letter Staff Writer

Douglas Miles came to Johns Hopkins as an undergraduate in 1966 from the projects of Baltimore.

He entered as one of only 14 black students in his freshman class and graduated having helped found Hopkins's Black Student Union. He then went on to seminary school to become a Baptist bishop.

The civil rights activist has continued to remain active in the community and has become a leader in Baltimoreans United in Leadership Development, an organization rooted in the city's neighborhoods and churches. For 30 years the group has worked to improve housing, increase job opportunities and rebuild schools.

The *News-Letter* sat down with Miles at the Koinonia Baptist Church to talk about his life, his experiences at Hopkins and what he feels the University needs to do to improve its relationship with the city:

N-L: What did your parents do?

DM: My father was a long shore man and a minister. My mother did domestic work basically all of her lifetime

from when she was eight years old to when she finally retired in 1972 ... So my brothers, sisters and I feel blessed that we had someone upon whose shoulders we could stand, who made sure her children had an education. My father, though a minister, left our family when I was two years of age and so basically I was raised under my mother's hands.

N-L: What was your major?

DM: I started out pre-med and eventually ended up being one of the first humanistic studies area major to come out of Hopkins. I majored in education and triple-minored in philosophy, world history and sociology. I sat under one of the first teachers of an African-American course at Johns Hopkins, Hugh Davis Grant, a Southern white. That shows the state of mind at the Hopkins at the time — he was a Southerner and thus understood black people.

N-L: What was the attitude of the student body towards you at the time?

DM: At the time I came to Hopkins in 1966, there were mixed reception on campus. There was one fraternity that I went to pledge for and the

CONTINUED ON PAGE A6

NEWS & FEATURES

Reader's Digest ranks JHU number one in security

By JESSIE YOUNG
News-Letter Staff Writer

Of the 135 universities and colleges who participated in *Reader's Digest's* campus safety survey, Hopkins has been placed in the top spot.

The Campus Safety Survey was a comprehensive analysis of campuses' ability to handle various safety and security issues.

Schools were graded from A to C and ranked based on statistical analysis of their responses. Hopkins earned an "A" grade and was put in the top spot.

The survey was sent to the participating schools last November and various Hopkins administrators responded.

"We are pleased to be a contributing partner to the overall ranking and grade received," said Ed Skrodzki, executive director of campus safety and security said. Hopkins' administration has taken a proactive approach to on-campus safety since 2005, with an increased number of CCTV cameras and more emergency blue lights.

Some people, including administrators and organizations such as the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement (IACLEA), question the reliability of the ranking system in determining the safeness of any particular campus.

"We believe the survey methodology is flawed because it is not necessarily indicative of a campus public safety agency's effectiveness in crime prevention and protection of lives and property," said Christopher Blake, IACLEA associate director and campus preparedness project director.

Blake notes the survey question addressing whether campus officers are armed.

"One cannot automatically assume that an unarmed campus public safety department is less effective in protecting students, faculty and staff at a college and university. Whether a college or university has armed officers is often dictated by state statute or institutional policy," Blake said.

While Blake is not familiar specifically with Hopkins' pub-

lic safety department, he states that the ranking on the survey indicates the existence of a number of security measures.

Dean of Student Life Susan Boswell was consulted for the survey and agrees that while the report may reflect the school's recent improvements, it is nowhere near a comprehensive report of all aspects of campus safety.

"Whenever any kind of survey grades campuses, too many factors — such as the different environments the schools are in — need to be taken into account, so I wouldn't automatically assume that all the campuses that got A's were exceptional and all the campuses that got C's were not," Boswell said.

Carol Mohr, the senior director of Housing and Dining Services also participated in the survey. She believes that student education and personal vigilance also play a crucial part in the safety and may not have been reflected in the article. The questions posed by *Reader's Digest* dealt with what variety of facilities, services and appliances were in place, such as cameras and turnstiles.

These things give one "a pretty good sense of what the institution has in place to handle security from a physical side, but another big part of safety is education and making students more aware of the things that they need to do to stay safe in their environment, which is what programs like ResLife and the Dean of Students Offices do. So a ranking is not necessarily a guarantee of safety," Mohr said.

After last Thursday's shootings at Northern Illinois University, campus safety and security are many institutions' top concerns. Hopkins' recent number-one ranking has helped calm prospective students' parents.

"Safety is a big concern for parents," said Sharon Miller, coordinator for the Blue Key Society, the student organization that gives Homewood tours. "I think that parents and students are more concerned with what Hopkins actually does to keep its students safe rather than just a number or a ranking."

StuCo looks to overhaul relations with administration

Continued from Page A1
and the Council, including a lack of transparency, failure to provide students with sufficient advanced notice of policy changes, ignoring the representative input of the Council, and a failure to provide a system of governance that allows for undergraduates to impact decisions or enact change on campus.

Specifically, the Council was frustrated by the administration's decisions to change the academic course schedule, the study abroad programs, some Housing and Dining Services policies, internship credit policies, student group allocations and event planning policies. None of these, the Council said, was made with sufficient input from the student body.

Boswell and Burger both denied a number of the allegations against the administration. The resolution alleged that administrative officers had failed "to make themselves available in a timely manner to the members of the representative organizations of the Student Body."

To this, Burger simply replied that she was "puzzled by why there would be a view that [they] do not." She cited several instances since last semester when she met with various members of The Council.

Bierbryer was adamant that the level of availability Burger and Boswell boast was exaggerated.

"We have trouble scheduling meetings with them," he said. "It is difficult for us to keep the administrative decisions in check."

Burger said that early last fall, she met with the executive board of the Council "and volunteered to come to any student council meeting at any time." She said that she is disappointed not to have been invited to them.

While he denies that Burger has never been invited, Bierbryer echoed this sentiment and believes that the idea needs to be taken further.

"I should also have an opportunity to meet with the trustees and voice student concerns," he said.

As a general rule, Bierbryer believes that administrators

make decisions of their own volition with minimal input from undergraduates. Only after they have implemented these decisions, he contends, do they inform the affected parties. Within this format, he noted, students are forced to act retroactively if they want to have any effect on the decisions.

He feels that it is the Council's responsibility to represent the interests of the undergraduates and believes the administration has been a hindrance in their attempts to do their elected duty.

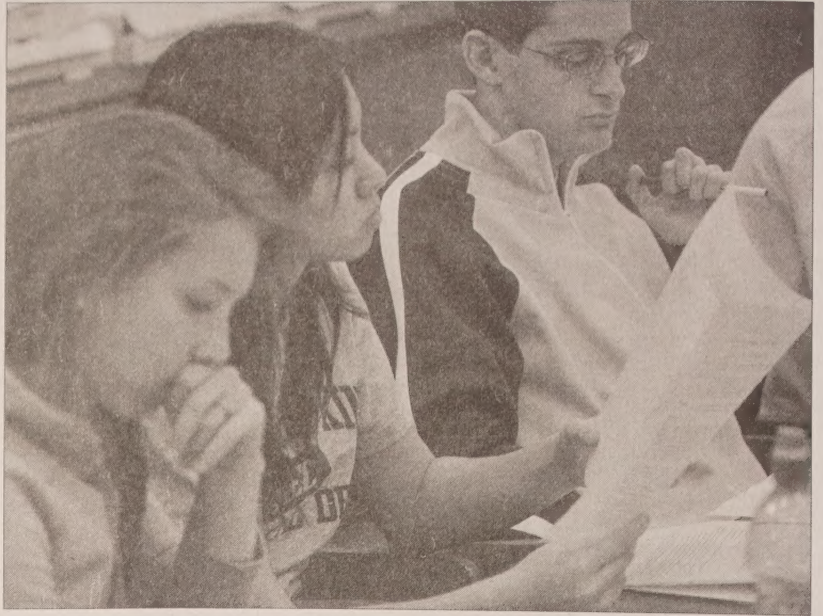
"If the administration is not concerned with the concerns that the undergrads have, we'll inform the people that they do care about," said senior Andrew Gerba, vice president for activities, who has been passionately involved with this process. He went on to cite a number of alumni and donors who, he believes, will support Student Council's resolution if they do not receive the administration's support.

"If this doesn't work, then there is going to be a redefinition of what student government is," he said.

Boswell met with Bierbryer and Gerba yesterday to briefly discuss specific communication challenges. All parties involved were content with this first step toward improved relations. They have a meeting scheduled with more administrators in the near future.

A recent attempt by the Council to bring in the rapper Ludacris is one example of poor communication between the administrators and the Council.

On Jan. 25, Bierbryer and Gerba had a meeting with Burger in which they discussed putting



CONOR KEVIT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Several StuCo members review the Council's resolution before voting almost unanimously to support it.

on a concert for Founders Day, which takes place this weekend.

Gerba worked with Council advisors and the Hopkins Organization for Programming to garner the funds and organization that would be required to put on a concert in such a short period of time.

According to Gerba and Bierbryer, the vast majority of their planning was in place by Feb. 6. At that time, they made Boswell aware of the full costs of the event, which were estimated at about \$90,000.

Two days later, Boswell e-mailed them with the information that she and some other administrators would deny their funding.

In the e-mail, Boswell cited inadequate time to plan "a concert of this magnitude." Instead, she asked that they start planning a concert for the fall.

Gerba was extremely disappointed with this decision, which he feels was unwarranted since the funds were all available and the planning was so nearly complete. He was also frustrated with what he considered a delay in informing him of the decision to deny the funding.

Gerba and Bierbryer were told that Boswell had consulted

with administrators who had extensive experience in concert planning, and that they had determined that the timeline was simply too short to pull off a concert — especially one which required such a significant investment.

As the representative for activities, Gerba was especially disappointed with the decision. He believed that the student body, as a whole, would prefer to have one big event like the Ludacris concert as opposed to a series of smaller, less attended events.

His frustration also extended to the budget allocation process. All of the funds to pay for the concert would have come from the Council, the HOP and a small donation by Burger's office — all funds that they already had, and much of which they would have made back in ticket sales.

"Why do we need approval for the budget that we've already been allocated?" he said.

Bierbryer is convinced that the administrators are unaware of the ways that the administration, in the Council's opinion, is being counter-productive.

"I think they think they're doing the right thing," he said. "Maybe it's just from being on the campus for so long."

Naturally, administrators disagree, but are still open to change.

"I believe strongly in having an effective student government organization on campus and having student input in matters that affect them," Burger said. She listed a number of student advisory committees for Housing, Dining, Residential Life, the Career Center, Health and Wellness and many more that she believes represent the students.

As the students' elected representatives, Bierbryer questioned why The Council members were not included on these boards in addition to other students.

At the same time, Bierbryer readily admitted that he has turned down offers to sit on some university committees.

"I'm honestly so ashamed of some of the committees that I've been [involved with] on campus that I don't include them on my resume," he said.

With yesterday's meeting behind him, Gerba has hope that in the future, relations between the Council and the administration will allow him to do his job.

"As vice president of entertainment, all I want to do is have really cool events," he said.

Spring Fair names Reel Big Fish, Bone Thugs-n-Harmony as musical acts

Continued from Page A1
"If Spring Fair had another \$20,000, they wouldn't be struggling right now," Student Council President Scott Bierbryer said.

In response, Farber admitted that more money would make the booking process easier.

"We can always use more money for the concert, but it is what it is," he said.

Even with this increase in funds, a higher price tag was one of the reasons why rock band O.A.R., Spring Fair's original choice, could not be booked for the concert.

"O.A.R. was extremely expensive," said a Spring Fair staff member who requested anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the issue.

"Their requirements were too much for what we have. It was a combination of how much money they were asking and mechanical limitations of the field."

Farber could not reveal the cost of bringing the groups to Hopkins.

"We can't say how much we pay the artists, because of contract reasons, and it would be disrespectful to the artists," he said.

According to the staff member, contracting a popular music group costs somewhere between \$60,000 and \$70,000. Music groups or artists who are not at the peak of their fame usually cost between \$40,000 and \$50,000.

Any music group after that can cost anywhere from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Farber noted that Spring Fair often collaborates with other student groups such as Student Council and the HOP to raise money. "We turn to different groups for funding. We don't have any set budget for the concert."

He added that the University appropriated additional funds because of the desire to move the concert outdoors, which required extra money for increased security and portable toilets.

Although Baltimore has recently put tighter restrictions on noise ordinance enforcement, concert committee members feel that the concert should not become a disturbance.

But local Baltimore City Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke said she was not made aware of this decision.

"I did not know that JHU has a Spring Concert, let alone its venue," she said in an e-mail.

"We got all the necessary permit and tons of security, but didn't feel the need to contact any [local] politicians," Farber said.

Clarke added, "I would be involved only if we are talking about a loud-and-long concert in an area adjacent to neighborhoods. In which case, I would call Hopkins, not the police, and ask for a less invasive location."

"The venue is situated pretty far from local residences and will be over at a reasonable hour, so we do not anticipate any complaints," nighttime entertainment committee co-chair junior Jonathan Bernhardt said.

The committee members were pleased with the acts they were able to bring to campus this year.

"This is the first time in years that we have been able to book acts of this national caliber and recognition, not to mention that we got two of them," said nighttime entertainment committee co-chair junior Sameer Bhalla.

"We considered a bunch of groups and considered all our opportunities. When this opportunity came up, it received wide support and we immediately jumped on the opportunity to host the unique combination," Bernhardt said.

"It's not that we were disappointed with last year's performance, as Common is a great act, but more that we wanted to book an act that would excite the campus. We think we achieved that this year," Bhalla said.

However, some students disagreed.

"I don't know who they are. I'll definitely go the Spring Fair, but maybe not the concert," sophomore Amanda Murphy said.

"I don't know who Reel Big Fish is. A friend told me about



COURTESY OF JAMES PEROU
Ska-punk band Reel Big Fish will headline this year's outdoor Spring Fair concert.

them and I was interested ... I'll go because I probably would never get to see them ever again," freshman Jin Cha said.

Others were happy to hear about the acts.

"I'm really excited that it's going to be outdoors and I think it's really going to bring the community together," senior Nancy Kuo

said.

According to Bhalla, the search for opening acts is ongoing.

The committee is hoping to sell the tickets for under \$10, which they said would go on sale in the upcoming weeks.

The practice field, where the concert will be held, has a capacity of more than 4,000.

ERRATA

In the Feb. 14 issue, Matt Gross was misquoted in his interview on page A4, "Hopkins alum tells of his post-graduation travels." Gross took John Barth's class as a senior, not Jean McGarry's. He also took over the *New York Times's* "Frugal Traveler" column from Daisann McLane.

In the same issue, on page B11, Graham Belten was misquoted as wearing briefs in the article "Fast as a hare in track, slow as a tortoise in the shower." He actually wears boxers.

The News-Letter regrets these errors.

SECURITY ALERTS

Feb. 14 between 6:46 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.:

An unattended watch was stolen from the exercise room in Charles Commons. The investigation is continuing.

Feb. 14 between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.:

On the Eastern Campus Lower Lot, it was reported that one of the tires on an employee's parked vehicle had been cut. The incident was not reported until Feb. 15, and an investigation is ongoing.

Feb. 15 between 1:40 a.m. and 2:00 a.m.:

An unidentified man took a sandwich from an unlocked refrigerated case at Café Q. A student employee identified herself to the man, who dropped the sandwich and fled the scene. The incident was not reported to campus security until Feb. 15 at 1:50 p.m. An investigation is continuing.

Feb. 17 between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.:

Two bank cards and cash amounting to \$11 were stolen from a Hopkins employee's unlocked locker. An investigation is continuing.

City enacts new bike route network

By JESSIE YOUNG
News-Letter Staff Writer

The new bike lanes and signs in Charles Village are part of a Baltimore City plan intended to increase cycling as a means of transportation, health and recreation.

The Bicycle Plan lays down a network of routes that will, at their completion, connect all parts of Baltimore.

It also includes movements by the city to make bicycle routes safer and more accessible to patrons, such as striping bike lanes, putting up signs and installing bike racks throughout the city.

While other major cities have well-developed bicycle and greenway trail networks, Baltimore was lacking. City officials hope to expand Baltimore's bike route system to accommodate both need and demand.

Beth Strommen, author of the Bicycle Master Plan, acknowledged that the city recognized this lack of structure but also the existence of a biking community within Baltimore to utilize it.

"We needed to make the roads safer for not only the existing cyclists, but to provide facilities to encourage more people to ride as well," Strommen said.

Strommen also emphasized the practical implications of expanding and making safer Baltimore's bike routes. "We felt that it was realistic to think that people would actually choose to ride their bikes because then they can get exercise and don't have to worry about parking."

The city is implementing these changes in phases, starting by working with the Baltimore



JESSIE YOUNG/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Signs marking a new bike route were put up along North Charles Street in January.

Collegetown Network (which runs the Collegetown Shuttle) to implement the Collegetown Bike Route.

The participation of the Collegetown Network is due to student responses. In past Collegetown surveys, students have expressed a desire to use bicycle routes, citing that it was difficult to bike in Baltimore as compared to other cities.

"It's easy to ride your bike around on campus, but when you want to go someplace in Baltimore, it's really hard because roads aren't really set up for bikes. This plan should make everything much more accessible for students," said Kristen Campbell, executive director of the Baltimore Collegetown Network.

When completed, it will encompass several major institutions in the city, including University of Maryland at Baltimore, University of Baltimore, MICA, Loyola, Notre Dame and Morgan State, in addition to Hopkins.

Around Hopkins, some trails are placed through Wyman Park and along North Charles Street. When the trails are finally com-

pleted, bikers will be able to ride from Homewood to the Inner Harbor without having to rely on public transportation.

In Charles Village, work on the trails has been completed but work elsewhere has been stalled due to weather conditions.

The hope is that the rest of the project will be completed by the spring of 2009 in all other locations.

"If you were a Hopkins student, we would like to see you be able to get from, say where your apartment is, to shopping, or from where your apartment is over to the campus," said Doug McCoach, Baltimore City planning director.

The Bicycle Master Plan is a part of the city's larger Comprehensive Master Plan, entitled "Live, Earn, Play, Learn."

It outlines strategies to improve the economy and the quality of life in the city over the next six years.

The Master Plan is broken down into more specific categories covering the maritime plan, the economic development plan, the transportation plan and the bicycle plan, among others.

Hopkins digitizes special collection

By SARAH GRANT
For The News-Letter

Hopkins has joined with the Open Content Alliance (OCA) in an effort to make the Milton S. Eisenhower Library digital, including one of its special collections.

The special collection contains anti-slavery pamphlets and publications that ran from the late 19th century through the Reconstruction period, which had been compiled by a leader of the abolitionist movement, James Birney. These materials have a lot of research value.

The Open Content Alliance is a cumulative and international group that is comprised of a range of organizations, including cultural, technological and governmental. Together, these groups are working to digitize a multilingual archive of text and multimedia content.

According to a representative at OCA, several universities, such as Columbia, Harvard and Hopkins, have become interested in implementing students' access to out of print and rare texts and to enrich their scope of world culture.

The OCA archive will be available through its Web site, where Yahoo! has collaboratively indexed and stored all of the content for the ease of Internet users.

The Birney Collection is a prototype, since the OCA hasn't really begun to incorporate special collections.

"Our aim with digitizing the material is to increase student and faculty access to these primary sources," said Margaret Burri, curator of manuscripts of special collections and curator of and a librarian for history.

If digitalization is implemented, students and staff would have access to all the collections of the OCA's archive on the Internet, while respecting the rights of content owners and contributors by using PDF software. OCA is designed to increase the circulation and knowledge of texts and

information in general.

University of California recently contributed its archive on American literature, which is now available for downloading and reuse for any member of OCA. The benefits of pooling texts between universities can only increase student knowledge and awareness, making the OCA a valuable resource.

In the future, Hopkins's special collections has some trade union pamphlets that it would like to digitize, if there still remains time with the scanning technology needed to digitize, Hopkins has more special collections that Burri would like to see put up.

"Getting anything in digital is beneficial to students and the collection we have is certainly appealing to students and researchers beyond the University," Burri said.

Another widely used option is the Google Book Search. Acting like a card catalogue, Google Book Search gives users information about a text, including a couple of sentences from the text.

With the Google Books Library Project, books out of copyright are available online and are available to users to view and download, as well as links to where the user can buy or borrow the book. Possessing a digitized library would impact the lives of Hopkins students and staff in numerous ways.

"As a Hopkins student, it just seems practical to implement the digital library system. Whether OCA or Google is more beneficial is not for students to decide, but if the technology of digitizing libraries is out there, I can't think of any reason why Hopkins

should not partake," freshman Claire Cravero said.

Another freshman, Jonathan Jacobs said, "Digital library technology is important and has the potential to exponentially increase student productivity and availability to diverse resources. What Hopkins must pay attention to is the trends with other universities and what they seem to be leaning towards."

However, several major research libraries have declined offers from OCA and Google to scan their library books. Their complaints are that they do agree with the restrictions put on new digital collections and feel that companies want unnecessary rights over library texts.

"In terms of digitizing texts, I can understand the anti-corporate view, but I am not aware of the specifics. I think anything that increases people's access to primary sources is great," Burri said.

Google pays to scan the books and does not profit from

Web pages, while OCA charges \$30 to scan each book. The money is given to the group's members. This reason is most likely why many research libraries, such as the New York Public Library, Harvard, Oxford and the University of Michigan, have accepted Google's offer over OCA's offer.

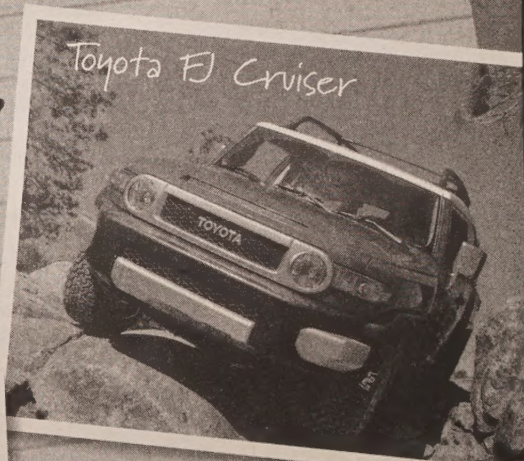
As for Hopkins's participation in the program, "It's going beautifully. They are handling the materials very well, and that makes us comfortable because it is a special collection. Having more people discover our resources is great and OCA is doing a very nice job with collection; it is already heavily used by faculty and students," Burri said.

You don't need a text book
to tell you
there is NO substitute
for quality.

As a recent
college grad,
you may be eligible for

\$4000 OFF
any new Toyota of your
choice* in addition to other incentives.

See your Toyota dealer for details.



Toyota FJ Cruiser



Toyota Yaris



Toyota Camry

NEWS & FEATURES

Dining reacts to student concerns over wait time

By **HEATHER BARBAKOFF**
News & Features Editor

The change in scheduling this semester has led to a variety of student complaints; they include an inability to have Fridays off, the clustering of classes in the same time slot and perhaps most unpredictably, an increase in wait time and crowding in dining facilities.

Student complaints about the increase in the number of students at the Levering Food Court around noon seem to be partially related to changes in class schedules.

The lines for both food service and checkout at this time seem to have grown longer. A meeting was also held on Monday, Feb. 18 to discuss dining and changes and alterations to Nolan's, Charles Street Market and the Fresh Food Café.

"I think that when they made the switch to making all personalizations from the pre-made it became less efficient," sophomore Adam Baumgartner said. He described how he used to be able to get lunch quickly between classes and how the Peppercorn Grill's change from self to full service increased waiting time. "I spend about 10 minutes in line to get a burger, three more while it's made and then to pay."

Allison Carlstom, also a sophomore, echoed his sentiments.

"I think that at noon it's more crowded than it used to be ... last semester that wasn't the case," Carlstom said. She too stated that it was hard to eat in Levering at noon when she has a 1:00 p.m. class.

Dining services, however, does not see an increase in congestion.

"Levering has always been challenged to serve a large number of customers in a relatively short time span. I've yet to find a food court *anywhere* that isn't crowded from 12-1 p.m.," said Dave Furhman, director of dining programs.

The University will respond to the demand for faster service by opening a third cash register during the 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. rush, in efforts to help improve service at all of Levering's four dining stations.

"We are constantly walking a fine line to deliver the freshest (and often customized) product in the shortest amount of time. We actively work to never sacrifice quality for speed," Furhman said.



LAURA BITNER/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Recently students have been complaining about increased wait times for their meals at several University dining halls.

While Nolan's had been open for lunch in the spring 2007 semester, it has not been open for lunch this academic year. This is because Nolan's had never been intended as a lunch venue, but functioned as a surrogate last year until Charles Street Market and Einstein Bros. Bagels were completed.

Similar to at Levering, students complain of long lines and long waits at Nolan's.

"You can't get a burger unless you're there at 4:45 when they are firing up the grill. I've waited 45 minutes for a Philly Cheesesteak," Carlstom said.

"If you are waiting more than 13 minutes for food, ask to see a manager. We are fighting a battle between serving food quickly and serving fresh food and juicy meats. Nothing should take longer than 13 minutes," said Carla Skornik, the culinary trainer for Aramark.

However, many students complain that the salad bar at Nolan's does not look fresh and that there is a lack of healthier items, such as fresh fruits and milk.

"The food could be better, more variety," sophomore Laura Tyler said. "There are times that the food just doesn't taste good. Usually in the Homestyle, there's a lack of taste."

Citing the longer lines for

freshly-made foods like pasta and the grilling stations, many students instead choose the quicker options of either pizza or the Homestyle station. But while these pre-made items may allow for quicker service, many students complain that they are not as good as the on-the-spot menu choices.

"A plate of pasta is more healthy than a slice of greasy pizza and all of the chicken and biscuits in the comfort foods ... I can feel my arteries clogging," Carlstom said.

The introduction of the Healthy Options program at the Fresh Food Café in fall of 2007 will hopefully address this issue. The program began this semester at Levering and will be enacted in all dining facilities by next fall.

In addition to merely being a dining hall, Nolan's hosts a variety of events designed to help foster community.

Citing the removal of half price burger night, Furhman stated that the program's purpose was to introduce Nolan's to students living off-campus, while enticing all students to remain at Nolan's as a place to socialize. But the majority of patrons wished to take their burgers "to-go," rendering this goal ineffective.

"The University's hope is that Nolan's will become more to our students than just a place to eat. It was designed as a comfortable gathering spot where students or any member of the University community can meet, relax and spend time," Furhman said.

The turnout at events like "Jazz at Nolan's" and the opportunity to watch popular TV shows such as *House* varies according to the night.

However, with the closing of the HUT due to the Gilman renovations at the end of this academic year, Aramark has responded with the introduction of "quiet hours" on Monday to Thursday from 1:00 p.m. through 1:00 a.m.

The Fresh Food Café recently

underwent menu changes; due to the attention that Aramark does give to what students post on the comment board. A cited example was the fact that the bread station was modified from whole loaves to sliced bread as a result of the negative comments on the board.

Take-out dining options at the Fresh Food Café were removed as a late-night option; however take-out is available for all three meals.

In response to student comments about patron crowding, the Fresh Food Café is trying to open more registers when there is the accumulation of a line, as well as experimenting with the placement of certain food stations to help reduce congestion in the food area. All food stations should be open for the entire duration of the Fresh Food Café's dinner hours.

At all campus dining facilities, there is a constant search for new products, recipes or ideas, particularly for the vegan and vegetarian options. Currently at the Fresh Food Café, Aramark is testing new vegetable proteins this semester, and after evaluating their success, Aramark plans to expand these options to other places.

The Charles Street Market has had its check-out lines significantly reduced, which can be attributed to a heightened awareness of when lines are starting to form.

"We have really been working towards having our employees jump to the register when they see a line.

The problem is people working at the register can't go find more help because then they would have to leave their post," Skornik said at Monday's meeting.

The Charles Street Market also now has a working DVD rental machine and the option of rotisserie chicken will once again be part of the pre-prepared food items.

— Additional reporting done by
Laura Dingle

Hopkins hosts "Faith in the Black Community" panel

By **KENSING NG**
News-Letter Staff Writer

During his childhood, Earl El-Amin looked up to the black Muslims in his neighborhood.

"They were dignified, respected. They were like the vanguards of the community," he said during the "Faith in the Black Community" panel discussion held on Friday.

Sponsored by the Black History Month Committee and the Black Student Union, the two-hour long forum involved black members of the Buddhist, Jewish, Muslim and Christian communities.

The discussion covered the tenets of the panelists' religion and how each became a follower of his or her religion.

For the first hour, the representatives described what their religions are about and what they stand for. In the second hour, the panelists described their life stories, focusing on the role which religion played in helping them forge their own identities.

"The world is greater than your one life, but your life is in itself the universe. If I can't stand as an example, I must go back to the roots of my faith and make the adjustments there," said Maia Carroll, who represented the Buddhist Network of Greater Baltimore on the panel.

Panelist Herber Watts of the Baltimore Hebrew Congregation said that Jews "are supposed to live your faith through your life."

Christianity teaches that "your actions do have consequences; you are responsible to your actions. We do disagree with evil. We do disagree with oppression, slavery, racism, sexism — anything which prevents people from living together in community," said panelist Mark Wainwright, a reverend from Macedonia Baptist Church.

The panelists chose to focus on the things that were similar among their religions. All four representatives believed in the importance of peace and betterment of the community.

"Don't let anyone divide you. This is coming together like no other time in human history. All these religions are coming together in America," El-Amin said. The Imam represented the Muslim Community Center of Baltimore on the panel.

According to Wainwright, religion "should call individuals to personal relationships with God and to personal responsibility for their actions.

But it should also call communities, nations and the world to responsible practicing of faith traditions that they believe they have."

Watts agreed, saying that the goal of religion "should be to develop the moral underpinning of the community. It is imperative that integrity and morality and ethics be as much a part of the community as it was a part of the past, and it needs to continue into the future."

El-Amin said that the goal of religion in this new, unique time is to "develop what is human, the best of your humanity. We need to ask ourselves the question of what is a human and what do human beings do, and how does religion impact you to maximize your human potential."

To the black community, the panelists spoke of the importance of the joint values of community and humanity.

Carroll said that the "history of the presence of Africa within the United States is a beautiful epic of the rise of humanism in America ... to have the determination to fight for our humanity and to not give up that fight during humanity's most strenuous, most inhumane tests and finally to remember that the history of people of African descent in this country is to empower our youth and to empower our elders to embark on that same path of humanism."

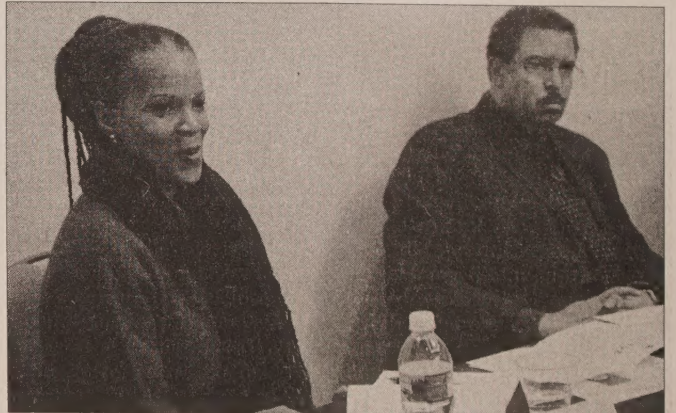
Sophomore Justin Jones, who serves as the co-chair for the Black History Month Committee, said he found the event very informative.

"If the openness and coherence we saw today could be translated into the greater black community we'd all be better off," Jones said.

"It was a good chance to get a wide variety of backgrounds from experts on their field. I had a chance to see the benefits and in and out of each religion," sophomore Lindsay Leslie said.

"This is a special time. This country is the most diverse country in human history — religiously, ethnically and culturally. In no other time in human history could we have this conversation," El-Amin said.

The panel was co-sponsored by Civic Frame, a Baltimore-based nonprofit organization dedicated to encouraging critical thought on social issues. April Garrett, the group's founder and president, served as moderator for the forum.



LAURA BITNER/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Hopkins hosted a panel on faith in the black community for Black History Month.

StuCo shows unanimous support for sustainability bill

By **PAYAL PATNAIK**
News-Letter Staff Writer

The Sustainability Revolving Loan Fund, which had been rejected two years ago, was unanimously passed by the Student Council last Tuesday.

The proposal for the Sustainability Revolving Loan Fund requests one million dollars for the initial allotment and an additional \$1 million after two years if a 20 percent average rate of return is met.

Freshman class President Dan Teran will be meeting with James McGill, senior vice president for finance and administration, this Friday to discuss the oversight of the revolving loan fund.

Currently, a temporary investment pool fund (TIP) exists at Hopkins, in which any department from the University can take out money for use in projects if the project would make back what was borrowed in five years.

But this investment pool is

normally used to only fix things because it has such a low budget.

The Hopkins sustainability committee ran testing on the Hopkins Eastern Campus heating but could not pay for fixing the drafts because the TIP fund did not provide them with enough money, although it could have been paid back in less than three years. The TIP fund has a \$5 million budget.

"The TIP fund is larger in scope than the sustainability initiative and the TIP was too large and the departmental budgets too small," Teran said.

Harvard established an initiative like the TIP fund in which individual departments applied for money, but later established a campus sustainability initiative.

Harvard University's "Green Campus Loan Fund" serves as an example of a successful revolving loan fund.

Within 30 months, Harvard saved \$889,000 and since its cre-

ation in 2002, 147 projects of the Green Campus Loan Fund are projected to save Harvard \$3,847,587 per year.

"I think if we have a unanimous vote on it, it will send a strong message," Teran said. "Given sufficient administrative support, sustainability revolving loan fund promises to inspire cost effective responsible development for the future of the Johns Hopkins University."

Teran believes there is a need for the revolving fund, especially to accomplish little projects that will save money, projects he calls "seemingly simple things that have tremendous payback."

For example, changing Christmas lights to LED lights and using vegetable oil to fuel a pre-boiler for our power plants rather than discarding it in a landfill are examples of sustainability projects that will save the campus money.

Senator Evan Lazerowitz supports the bill but is concerned about the expenditure of the

money.

"The program and the goal itself are pretty good, but there are many cons. If the sustainability loan fund is not implemented correctly, it could cause problems. Also, a con is the initial investment in terms of the university being reluctant to give out a lot of the money," he said.

Justine Mink, vice president for student life, said, "I think the bill is a very good idea. The University should be at the forefront of making the buildings and infrastructure more sustainable. I would be more hesitant if I hadn't seen a success in Harvard."

Mink continued to say that the sustainability plans in the renovation of Gilman are feasible and should be extended around campus.

"It's nice that the students have a chance to have a say in University building infrastructure and have a bigger impact," she added.

JACK BLACK MOS DEF
DANNY GLOVER

"JACK BLACK IS HILARIOUS."
Ben Lyons, E!

"IT'S AS IF BILL MURRAY AND DAN AYKROYD MORPHED INTO BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD. YOU'VE GOT TO SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT."
Pete Hammond, MAJUM

"GONDRI CREATES EVOCATIVE, JAW-DROPPING VISUAL IDEAS."
Patrick Z. McGinnis, SCREEN INTERNATIONAL

★★★★★
"IT'S LIKE NOTHING YOU'VE EVER SEEN."
Jeff Crisp, SIXTY SECOND PREVIEW

BE KIND REWIND
You name it. We shoot it.

STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22

BALTIMORE CITY: LANDMARK'S HARBOREAST
HARVARD: BOOTHMAN
OWINGS MILLS: ANA
OWINGS MILLS II: ANA
WHITE MARSH AND LODES
WHITE MARSH II

MOBILE USERS: For Showtimes - Text REWIND with your ZIP CODE to 43549 (43549)
www.bekindmovie.com

PAID ADVERTISEMENTS

Juniors: got arts?



Homewood Arts Certificate

Awarded in five non-academic areas
Dance • Digital Media • Fine/Visual Arts •
Music • Theatre

**Application deadline for all Juniors:
Fri Feb 29, 5pm**

For information & application materials:

[http://
artsprograms.jhu.edu](http://artsprograms.jhu.edu)
click on: "Arts Certificate Info"

Homewood Arts Programs, Mattin 210
ebeatty@jhu.edu

Announcing a new prize opportunity for Johns Hopkins University Full-time undergraduates with Junior or Senior status.

The Christopher B. Elser Prizes

The Christopher B. Elser Prizes were established by family and friends of the Elser family as a memorial to the life of Christopher B. Elser, a member of the JHU Class of 2007. It is presented to a junior or senior reflecting the following attributes:

- Demonstration of active participation and commitment to community service
- A record of active participation and leadership in campus life and campus activities.
- A demonstrated passion for athletics
- Academic achievement

Nominations for the Christopher B. Elser Prizes may be submitted by JHU Faculty, Staff and Students including self nominations. All nominations must be received by March 14, 2008

The Christopher B. Elser Prizes consist of up to two monetary awards and will be presented at the JHU Student Leadership Awards program in the Spring semester of each academic year.

Nomination forms can be downloaded from
http://web.jhu.edu/studentprograms/OSI/leadership_awards
or can be picked up in the Office of the Dean of Student Life, Suite 102, Levering Hall.

Mark Your Calendars for a University Commemoration Day Celebration "It's a piece of cake!"

Friday, February 22

12:00 Noon 2:00 PM

Come to the Levering Lobby
for CAKE served by JHU Deans and Administrators

Wear your Hopkins colors or logo attire to show your school spirit and celebrate the University's founding!!

500 Commemoration Day T Shirts will be given away to the first 500 students who arrive in Hopkins attire and a student J-Card.

NEWS & FEATURES

Bishop, Hopkins alumnus desires change

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
fraternity song was "Dixie." I said I would never be a part of that fraternity.

N-L: Why did you want to go into medicine?

DM: It had been a lifelong ambition. I wanted to be a neurosurgeon. That was in the back of my mind up until my calling to ministry ... I wanted to be in a helping field where I am saving people but also wanted the prestige. But when I went to Hopkins, of course, premed students had to take calculus their freshman year. I had never even heard of calculus. Here I was sitting in the class as one of my classmates was going through the textbook pointing out errors the author had made and I was hearing for the first time the word calculus. The first year was a real struggle.

N-L: What was one of your happy moments at Johns Hopkins?

DM: My first-year class I took in world history. The professor there was such a magnificent teacher ... My other was my introduction to Jeb Maguire, who then was chaplain at Hopkins, and a long term social activist.

N-L: What was one of your most memorable moments at Johns Hopkins?

DM: ...First, my attempt to get a haircut at the Hopkins campus and to be told by the barber that he didn't cut monkeys' hair. The second most memorable was actually the day the Black Student Union ... being integrated with African-Americans from Compton State Teacher's College which was then Morgan State. Coming and seeing that number of African-Americans on campus meeting in an atmosphere of peace and unity, but being perceived as a threat by the Hopkins community.

N-L: How did you help found the Black Student Union, what were the challenges you faced and how did you resolve them?

DM: First of all, there was no one person who founded the Union. It was a group effort that came out of our joint pain ... out of our frustration of not having a place where we could be black and not feel that we were threatening other folks. Secondly, it was to have a sense that there were other African-Americans that, if we needed them, would come on a moment's notice ... I did not suf-

fer in the same way that many of the African-American students on campus because I lived at home but it made me almost dichotomous in my own personality. I had to be one way on the Hopkins campus with the predominantly white community and I had to act an entirely different way when I went home in Reservoir Hill.

N-L: Do you think minority students still feel the same way today at Hopkins?

DM: I am sure that still is there and the only way that it leaves and people don't have that tension is that they succumb and attempt to blend in rather than maintain their individuality and their own culture.

N-L: Why did you become a minister after leaving Johns Hopkins?

DM: I actually experienced my calling to ministry while a student ... I took all the courses at Hopkins that related to religion in any way, everything I could take in preparation in going to seminary. When I announced to my advisor that I was going to change my major he said, "You're going to leave medicine to become a minister." I said, "That's the path I am going down." I feel greatly blessed that my family supported me.

N-L: Do you think Hopkins does a better job today addressing the needs of minority students?

DM: I think it does a better job than when I was there because some attempts being made. When I was there, no attempt was being made to help African-Americans feel a part of the campus.

N-L: What do you think they could do better?

DM: One, when [minority] students come to Baltimore, [Hopkins] ought to organize with persons out of that community, towards the areas of the city where those particular ethnic groups or cultures tend to form to have opportunity for the new students to interact with leaders out of all the various communities of Baltimore. Also sponsor activities for those students to engage in social activities off-campus in a more meaningful way.

N-L: How would you get students more involved and more interested in the problems that face the community?

DM: I think the greatest path for that is for the faculty to dem-



COURTESY OF HUSAIN DANISH
Douglas Miles discussed his time as a Hopkins student and his desire for change.

onstrate a concern beyond the walls of Hopkins and lead student engagement off campus.

N-L: Do you think Hopkins has, in a way, created this atmosphere where the world outside of Hopkins, in Baltimore, is bad?

DM: It's long-term. Again, being a student at Dunbar High School, Hopkins built a housing development right across the street from the school. While it was seeking community support for this project to build housing for doctors and their families, the expression was that this would be a community open to all. As soon as the community was built, they put a fence all the way around it, so that people who lived in the community couldn't even cut through to get to their houses. That's the atmosphere Hopkins has created. To this day, there are still many African-Americans who will not go to Johns Hopkins Hospital for fear that they will be treated as guinea pigs. The hospital has not sought to engage itself in the real life of Baltimore.

N-L: People have often seen Hopkins as doing more harm to the Baltimore community than good. Why do you think Hopkins doesn't try to help the community more?

DM: Because they don't have to. Hopkins has been an unbound guerilla in Baltimore ... What Hopkins wants, it gets. There has never been the need for Hopkins to engage the community around it. They are making a much better attempt that in years past and that is only due to the criticism they have received. Hopkins is like an island in the middle of the

city and the administration sees nothing wrong with that.

N-L: Do you think the students are the solution to this problem?

DM: That is the only way they will change because the boards of institutions are the last entity to change or to foster change.

N-L: What are you planning to do in the future?

DM: I am writing a book called *A Legacy for our Children*. It focuses on what the baby boomers failed to do and offering some prescription of what we still can do in order to leave a positive legacy for our children. I am equipping this church in transitioning over the next five to six years out of my leadership as my son takes more responsibility. I want to do some writing, some consulting [and] teaching of younger ministers.

N-L: What do you think is your legacy?

DM: My hope is that my legacy will be that I was a Christian preacher first of all who stood for what he believed was right, seeking to what was best in all communities and galvanize what is good about us to make the world better.

Security, students react to Illinois shootings

By ROSS LINKER
News-Letter Staff Writer

Some students question the value of a new siren and public address system Hopkins security plans to install in the wake of shootings at Northern Illinois University (NIU).

Last Thursday, NIU graduate Steven Kazmierczak opened fire in a large auditorium, killing five students before committing suicide.

"The shootings underscore the complex challenges campus security officers face in protecting the lives and property at colleges and universities across the country," said Edmund Skrodzki, executive director of Campus Safety and Security.

The new warning system is meant to inform the campus and surrounding community that an emergency is taking place. Warnings will begin with a siren wail, followed by specific information and instructions on proper procedure.

By the end of March, the system will be installed on the roofs of Garland Hall, the Ralph O'Connor Recreation Center and Whitehead Hall.

"Engineering studies conducted by the vendor and by our own staff showed that these were the most effective locations," Skrodzki said.

Student reaction to the NIU shooting has been mixed.

"I don't feel safe at Hopkins as this type of incident could, without a doubt, happen here," freshman Matilda Livieratos said.

"The Northern Illinois shooting was a tragedy, but at Hopkins I feel safe," freshman Eddie Holzinger said.

Hopkins security has not received any calls from staff, students or parents expressing safety concerns after the shooting.

But several students questioned the effectiveness of such a system.

"People shouldn't be lulled into a false sense of security and feel that sirens will fix the issue," freshman Andrew Mo said.

Freshman John Rodman said that he would prefer immediate police action rather than a campus-wide warning system.

"It's a good idea because it alerts people but it would probably cause panic. There's definitely a better system," he said.

Skrodzki felt that the University community at large should be more prepared for such a devastating scenario.

"The campus community at large needs to take personal responsibility to prepare for an emergency," he said.

Freshman Nick Krywopusk agreed. "I am a big proponent of personal responsibility and not having Big Brother hovering over me even if it is for my protection," he said.

"Security can't realistically stop this kind of event from ever happening," Holzinger said.

"Past studies have shown that the majority of school shootings, despite prompt law enforcement responses, were stopped by means other than law enforcement intervention," Skrodzki said.

Security is still encouraging several more recent safety methods. There are currently 2,149 students and 1,315 faculty members who have signed up for the emergency alert program, which sends a text message to registered students notifying them to threats on campus. A test of the new system will take place on Feb. 27.

But Skrodzki cautioned, "There is no combination of systems that can guarantee one hundred percent success. However, the staff of Campus Safety and Security are constantly reviewing new technologies and evaluating how well they will fit our environment."

Fraternities see drop in rush numbers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
who won't allow athletes to pledge fraternities," Kurz said.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon, which also draws many of its pledges from sports teams, saw the greatest decrease of all the fraternities this year. The fraternity has only eight pledges, as opposed to last year's 20.

"The fraternities on campus are in the midst of a lot of changes," said Andrew Brandel ('09), vice president of rush at Sigma Phi Epsilon. "The Greek community as a whole is very different from how it was even a few years ago and I think the next few years will see more drastic changes."

Not all fraternities have seen such a decrease in numbers. Sigma Chi more than doubled its pledges from last year, and Pi Kappa Alpha have experienced a steady increase over the past three years.

Lambda Phi Epsilon, which had no pledges last year, now has 10, the greatest increase of any fraternity. "We had a strategy change this year," Christopher Yook ('08), president of Lambda Phi Epsilon, said. "Instead of doing so many parties, we connected with different sororities and organization on campus and did more outreach events. We did more informal, smaller events, so we could interact with students more personally."

Liz Meinert ('09), president of Kappa Alpha Theta, believes outreach events caused the increase in sorority involvement this year.

"The Panhellenic Council made themselves more available this fall," she said. "The powder-puff football game is very popular. Events like this are a great way to show the camaraderie of Greek Life."

To increase fraternity awareness, both Beta Theta Pi and Sigma Alpha Epsilon held popular poker nights, while Alpha Delta Phi tried a rock-paper-scissors tournament this year.

"We generally have an open house event, where we serve pizza and wings to freshmen," Jack Funk ('09), president of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, said.

"We always vary our events to appeal to a wide range of people. Paintball is always our most popular event," Matt Wasserman ('10), rush chair for Beta Theta Pi said. The fraternity is content with the number of pledges it received this year, 10, down from 12 last year.

"We anticipated a number slightly higher than the one we received, but we are nonetheless happy with the size," Wasserman said.

Beta also had 10 pledges in spring 2006.

Although none of the fraternities have official quotas, most anticipate a certain number of pledges each year. "We usually budget for about 20 pledges," King said. "We try to concentrate on quality of pledges, but we're also interested in quantity. We want our fraternity to grow."

"We take it on a year to year basis," Funk said. "Just trying to determine the numbers out there."

On the other hand, the Panhellenic Council establishes a quota for each of its four sororities. This year, all sororities except for Kappa Kappa Gamma exceeded the quota.

The quota, Meinert explained, is determined by dividing the total number of rushing women by four. This year, the quota was 39, while last year it was 32. "There was an unprecedented increase of the number of people going through the recruitment process," Meinert said.

Rob Turning, coordinator of Greek Life, partly attributed the increase in sorority involvement to a Facebook group set up for female students interested in rushing. "We had 130 freshmen women join the group, wanting

to know more about the organizations," Turning said.

Last year, the Panhellenic Council had 115 pledges. This year it has 149.

Turning said more students are making their affiliations known, which also raises awareness of Greek life. "A few years ago, Greek life was something that happened in a basement somewhere. Now, you see a lot more sorority handbags and big Greek letter sweaters," he said.

Dorothy Sheppard, associate dean of students, echoed Turning, saying, "When students see a solid organization, people doing good things in the community, they want to join that group."

Nonetheless, fraternity involvement remains down for this year. Last year, pledges rose from 142 to 155. Currently, it stands at 152. "Our decrease this year is not dramatic, but we are worried a trend may be developing," King said.

To increase Alpha Delta Phi's future pledge classes, Kurz hopes to start reaching out more to non-athletic students. "It's something that will take time because we're pretty much labeled as an athletic fraternity," he said. "It's a slow process, but it's something we're trying to do."

"We're not necessarily working to increase number of pledges," Funk said. "We work every year to improve rush process and maximize our ability to attract freshmen and even some sophomores, to make operations run more smoothly."

Upperclassmen pledges remain low. "Over the past two years we have had one upperclassman in each spring pledge class," he said.

Upperclassmen generally avoid spring rush because they primarily pledge with freshmen, according to Wasserman.

King agreed. "I think the mindset people have is to pledge with their age groups," he said.

BERT'S HAS A NEW MENU

Ribs, Grilled Paninni Sandwiches, Pastas, crabby Fries and much much more have been added to all of your favorites like Wings, Sliders and Cheesesteaks.

Come check it out !

3105 St Paul St.
410 235 2501

Buy one meal get the 2nd for

1/2 price

Expires 2/29/08

NEWS & FEATURES

Fraternities react to loss of soph. housing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Both Turning and Kurz said they were notified of the decision on Jan. 23.

Kurz said that the reason Boswell made the decision was because "sophomores living in a fraternity house do not have the same experience as someone living on campus, which is very obvious ... she just doesn't see the benefits like we do."

Turning said that the original reason for the exemption was to create space in the dorms, but with the construction of Charles Commons and other housing this was no longer an issue.

He added that he told fraternity presidents, advisors and consultants that the discontinuing of exemption was a possibility.

"We've been discussing it on and off for the past two years," he said.

"I definitely heard that it was a consideration. I hadn't taken part in any meetings with administrators but the possibility was on the horizon," Kurz said.

But Jack Funk, president of Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE), said that he had no idea that administrators were planning to discontinue sophomore exemption.

"No student organization heard about it until after the fact," said Student Council junior class president and Sigma Phi Epsilon brother Prasanna Chandrasekhar.

"This conversation did not begin this year and has been held broadly with members of the Student Affairs division. It has been something we have discussed for the past several years but became convinced this year that the difference in living situations was too great to continue to offer an exemption," Boswell said.



JOHN FENDERGASS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wawa and Pike may lose their fraternity houses if the decision is not reversed.

"The main complaint was that it was such a short notice from their perspective, which is probably true. One way or another they had recruitment coming up and they had to tell freshmen. They wanted to prepare," Turning said.

"They did this the week before rush. We were trying to organize ... and they threw this enormous kink in the works," Chandrasekhar said.

Turning said that he had told fraternity presidents, advisors and consultants that the discontinuing of exemption was a possibility.

Kurz and Phi Kappa Alpha President Brad Garcia met with Turning, Boswell and Associate Dean of Students Dorothy Sheppard on Jan. 29.

Garcia declined to comment. Boswell said that after this meeting, "I understood how this would affect them in the immediate future and was willing to allow current freshmen to receive a Greek exemption."

"They understood that it was a rather quick decision on their part, which is why they gave us the year extension," Kurz said.

Student Council Executive Board President and Wawa brother Scott Bierbryer also attended the meeting, where he said it was "heavily implied" that the administration planned to make on campus housing mandatory for juniors.

When asked, Boswell said there were no such plans.

A meeting was held on Feb. 8, when Boswell said, "I let them know that the exemption would be permitted for the current class but eliminated after that."

But Kurz said that at the previous meeting, representatives talked about "how even if this one-year extension is granted, which it was, we would still have that same problem next year."

Turning said the loss of exemption would have the largest affect on Wawa. "They rely on sophomores to live in their house. However ... they have 77 men in their roster, counting [current] seniors to sophomores. Even if they didn't have exemption, I don't think that place has more room than that," he said.

"The second sophomores can't live there, the rent goes up and no one can live there," Wawa brother and Student Council executive board member Andrew Gerba said.

Kurz disagreed. "I don't think losing the house is something that one or two low pledge classes would cause," he said, adding that the chapter would consider letting people from outside the fraternity rent space in the house.

According to Bierbryer, the average cost of a room in Wawa is \$6,900 for a 12-month lease, which includes amenities. Kurz confirmed this number.

The cost of renting a room in SAE ranges from \$425 to \$700 per month, according to Funk.

Stressed for time, students turn to Adderall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

a little more to find out who had a prescription, but it was totally worth it," the student said. "I took it to help me study for my macro midterm. I was really behind in the class and I didn't understand the material, so I knew I'd have to pull an all-nighter, like 12 straight hours of studying. I wanted to do well and I figured that was really the only way it'd be possible."

The student took Adderall for the second time this semester, while caught up with rush activities.

"I got so behind on my schoolwork, I was getting all stressed about reading, so I took a pill of Adderall to help me stay up all night," the student said. "I would never consider taking it on a daily basis because it's not a good idea to become dependent—I try to limit my use to extreme situations."

Unlike this freshman, junior Avi Dunn has a legal prescription for Adderall, and he began using it last year after he was diagnosed with ADD.

"I took [Adderall] for the first time this summer and took a class and got an A. That was awesome. Fall semester, while I was taking Adderall, I got three As and an A-. That was a huge jump—I used to get Bs and Cs, and now I get all As," he said.

Dunn doesn't believe that he is getting an unfair advantage, since he still puts all his effort into his schoolwork.

"Sure, the [Adderall] helps a lot in class. But I'm also sitting in the front row of every class, taking notes, doing everything I can to do well," he said.

Another anonymous freshman has a prescription for Focalin, a drug similar to Adderall. Though the student has been diagnosed with ADD, the student struggles with the ethical implications of the drug.

"It's something I've had problems dealing with, why I get to take it and other people don't get to use assistance," the student said. "I do see it as an advantage."

The student said that friends have often asked for a pill or two of Focalin, and on occasion, the student has given it away.

"I have given [Focalin] to a couple of friends, and I don't really see how that's bad," the student said. "I would never give it to people who just wanted to edge out the competition, but I've given it to friends to help them do the work that they feel they would do or could do considering better circumstances."

The student has struggled with the idea that so many people

were going into a final, where half the kids in the room would be on Adderall."

Sheppard said that this issue reflects not only poor study habits, but also a generational inability to prioritize and make decisions.

"What did kids do before medication? They learned how to cope," Sheppard said. Sometimes you've got to be able to figure out how to manage your time, how to prioritize, and you need to develop coping skills. I worry that if kids are turning to Adderall as a solution, they're not developing these skills."

Amy Brokl, senior associate officer of admissions, also expressed concern for student study habits.

"It's worrisome if you haven't planned your time and have to rely on these crutches [like Adderall]," she said.

Brokl considered the theory that students are often driven to extremes like drugs when they're under the sort of pressure that a competitive atmosphere creates.

"I would think that whenever you have a group of driven, motivated individuals in a community, who feel as though there are a series of obstacles to overcome, tests to take, there is that inherent sort of stress. Extreme stress often begets extreme ways of overcoming these obstacles," Brokl said. "You'd probably see that kind of extremity at any highly selective institution."

A study from the University of Wisconsin in 2003 revealed that one in five college students have used Adderall or Ritalin without a prescription.

While Brokl said that it is the student's responsibility to figure out how to cope with a competitive atmosphere without turning to drugs, one student expressed the opposite reaction.

"If the school considers [taking Adderall] cheating, they need to deal with the fact that this place is competitive and that's the environment they're putting out, and that we're doing what we can to get by," she said.

I took [Adderall] for the first time this summer and took a class and got an A. That was awesome.

— JUNIOR AVI DUNN

ple are abusing the drug around campus while the student has an actual need for it.

"I take [Focalin] so I can be in a place where I can rationally make the decision to do work, because when I don't take it, I would never be able to choose to do work," the student said. "[Students who abuse it] take it so they don't have to make the choice to focus or not to focus. The drug is making the decision for them, and that's a cheap solution."

Students aren't the only ones grappling with the effects of this unique drug problem. Dorothy Sheppard, associate dean of students, said that the trend has been brought to her attention.

"A student came in at the beginning of the year and asked me what my feelings were [about the abuse of Adderall] and if I thought it gave students some edge," Sheppard said.

"Until then, I was naïve in thinking that all students who take Adderall had been diagnosed with ADD. But this student was upset because he felt that he

CKP the campus kitchens project

welcome to the newest
classroom on campus:

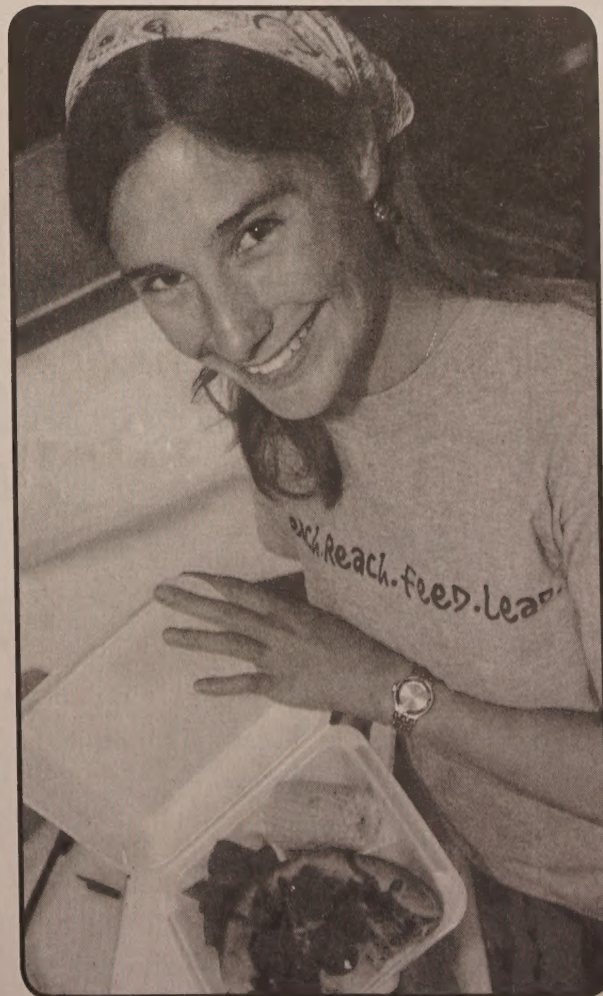
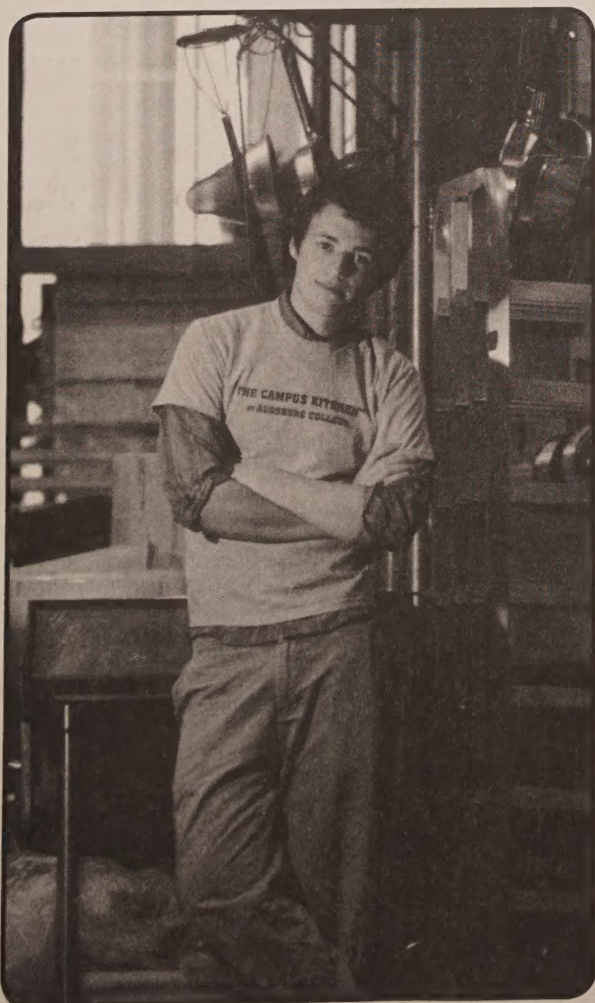
the kitchen.

teach • Reach • Feed • Lead

Fight hunger in your
community!

Email:

info@campuskitchens.org



www.campuskitchens.org

NEWS & FEATURES

Charm City Cupcakes brings touch of sweetness

By RHUL MARASIGAN
For The News-Letter

From a classy storefront nestled beside the shining golden elevators of the Colonnade wafts a smell sweeter than a spring bouquet, more enticing than summer's first barbecue, more luxurious than Chanel No. 5: the smell of cupcakes.

Charm City Cupcakes, which is unaffiliated with Charm City Cakes of Ace of Cakes fame, has recently teamed up with Hopkins, providing the University and its students with two upcoming cupcakes customized exclusively for Hopkins.

With a smile on her face, Sandra Long, owner of Charm City Cupcakes, remarked on the collaboration with Hopkins.

"We did a JHU Blue Jay cupcake, and we're working on one that is a Johns Hopkins seal cupcake," Long said.

Don't start salivating yet: these designs are still in the works.

When everything is finalized and the Hopkins cupcakes are ready to be rolled out of the oven, the Starbucks at Barnes & Noble may very well be putting them in the hands of eager students.

"Barnes & Noble has the decision as to when to unveil them," Long said. "Our job is just to create two really good cupcakes, and I have to yield to when they will announce it."

So far, Charm City Cupcakes has catered only a few Hopkins-sponsored parties and events. However, Long hopes to extend her partnership with Hopkins to the students, by selling cupcakes during sporting events and providing services to various student-run organizations and clubs.

"We feel it's a natural fit to be able to do student activities and sporting events," Long said. "That's good. That's the hope. It is our quest."

Charm City Cupcakes started its quest with the Hopkins Cupcake Club. As a member of the



JESSIE YOUNG/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Charm City Cupcakes recently opened near Hopkins. They are in the process of customizing cupcakes for two upcoming events.

Cupcake Club, a student has a 10 to 15 percent discount on any cupcake from either of Charm City's two locations.

With room enough for only one table and two small chairs, the Colonnade shop is too small for the cupcakes to be baked on the premises. To guarantee freshness, cupcakes are transported two to three times a day, depending on demand, from Bakery & Cupcakes To Go, Charm City's downtown birthplace, where cupcakes are baked in the early hours of the morning.

"On a day like this, where we don't have any more cupcakes even though we've baked dozens and dozens, we'll go back and try to bake a third time," Long said.

The inspiration for the bakery's 40 varieties of cupcakes comes from those closest to

Long. Many of her recipes were passed down in her family, while others come from friends around the world.

"Some were my grandmother's recipes, and some were my great-grandmother's recipes," Long said. "I'm a military brat, which means my family and I traveled everywhere. I have friends that are from different nationalities and they'll tell me what the equivalent is of the cupcake in their country."

With popular flavors like "one of my grandmother's old recipes for a chocolate cupcake with vanilla butter-cream and jelly drizzle," Long said, Charm City often sells out within two hours of baking. On some Saturdays, they even bake upwards of 2500 cupcakes. Charm City donates any leftovers to charity organizations located downtown, one of which is the

Daily Bread.

Recently, as a departure from the usual corporate catering, children's birthdays and "cupcake weddings," the bakery catered a "Baby Unveiling."

"This lady was pregnant, and she and her husband were going to do an unveiling party of what the baby's sex was," Long explained. "The only two people that knew the sex of their baby before they did was the doctor and me. That was awesome. So we created a little cupcake so when they bit into it, they would bite into blue chocolate mousse, and they could tell it was a little boy."

Charm City Cupcakes will soon unveil its spring collection, which includes eight new cupcake varieties kept secret until May.

Charm City's classy locale, massive menu and dedication to baking innovation beg the question: What inspired this reinvention of the cupcake?

"Our mission statement is to bake fresh everyday and become sort of the 'International House of Cupcakes,'" Long said. "We're working on a great international menu. I want to be the best."

Hopkins non-affiliate cited for trespassing

By PATRICIA PUGH
News-Letter Staff Writer

A non-affiliate of the University was issued a criminal citation for trespassing in the Hutzler Reading Room of Gilman Hall on Feb. 13 and was escorted off campus by Baltimore City Police.

Jeffrey Wetherson, 46, had been issued a warning for trespassing on Feb. 7 when a monitor identified him as a non-affiliate and called campus security. His older appearance provoked suspicion, as non-Hopkins affiliates are not permitted in the Hut. Student monitors routinely call for assistance from campus security if they identify individuals who do not appear to belong on the premises.

"Obviously, he didn't look like an undergraduate, and that's what prompted the call," said Steve Ossmus, lieutenant of investigations for campus security.

"They know when somebody should or shouldn't be there," said Bettie Cook, an administrative supervisor who works closely with security on behalf of the MSE Library and the Hut.

According to Cook, because the Hopkins library receives Title-III funding from the U.S. Department of Education, it is required to allow access to any and all individuals who can produce photo identification. Therefore, the main library on the Homewood campus is open not only to students with J-cards, but any adult who can produce a driver's license or a similar form of ID.

The 24-hour-a-day Hutzler Undergraduate Reading Room in Gilman, however, maintains a different policy. As its name implies, the Hut was originally designated for use by undergraduate students of Hopkins only. Generally speaking, anyone who can produce Hopkins identification is permitted to use the facilities, including graduate students.

Thus, the Hut is "strictly for affiliate people," Ossmus said. If someone such as Wetherson appears "out of place," they are considered a trespasser and are issued warnings by campus security.

At 3:40 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 13, "Our officers observed

him in there, knowing he'd already received a trespass warning, and that's why the police department was called," Ossmus said.

According to Cook, campus security makes routine checks in the Hut every few hours throughout the night.

"Campus security is very, very good with us," Cook said. "They keep a very close eye on the Hut."

It has been reported in the past that homeless individuals occasionally stay in the Hut because it is warm and open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Wetherson himself is not homeless. According to the Maryland Judiciary Case Search Web site, he was issued an open container citation in June 2007, though the charges were dismissed. This could potentially raise security concerns regarding the Hut, considering its easy accessibility and 24/7 operations. Student monitors are stationed during the day and are trained to report any strange persons or activity. Campus security does make regular checks at night, as stated by Cook. When a repeat trespasser such as Wetherson is apprehended, the Baltimore City Police will intervene.

"We get very infrequent calls to that location," said Ossmus of the Hut. Referring to Cook's job coordinating security for the library and the Hut, he said, "Whatever she's doing, she must be doing right."

Ossmus explained that a criminal citation is somewhat like a traffic ticket. The individual to whom one is issued must agree to appear in court and make a plea, a proceeding which will then appear on his or her criminal record. The court date for Wetherson's citation at the Hut has yet to be determined, and the Baltimore City Police Department was unable to be reached for comment by press time.

The Hut will be closing after the end of this semester with the renovation of Gilman Hall. When asked if there would be any new security measures in place in the newly renovated Hut, Ossmus said, "That's still in the planning process."

News in Brief

Hopkins scientists awarded honors, and elected to the AAP

Two Hopkins scientists were recently awarded with high honors for their contributions to medicine when they were elected members of the Association of American Physicians.

The AAP's newest members include researchers Gregg L. Semenza, director of the program in vascular cell engineering in the Institute for Cell Engineering (ICE), professor of pediatrics and member of the McKusick-Nathan Institute of Genetic Medicine, and Ted Dawson, co-director of the neuroregeneration program in ICE and professor of neurology and neuroscience.

In Semenza's lab at Hopkins medical school, he studies the molecular physiology of blood vessel growth and the remodeling of vascular systems in cardiovascular disease, as well as cancer.

Dawson's research involves the molecular basis of neurodegeneration. He studies this with a particular interest in instances of various neurodegenerative diseases.

His team has also been studying potential new innovations for neuroprotective and neurorestorative strategies with particular interest in Parkinson's disease patients.

As a non-profit organization, the AAP was founded in 1885 by seven doctors with the goal of encouraging continued progress in the field of medicine and medical research.

West Chester University residence halls go green

West Chester University is in the process of implementing a plan that will save millions in energy costs and be safer for the environment.

The university, located in West Chester, Pa., has undertaken a new residence hall project that will utilize geothermal energy systems, which reduce the workload for heating and cooling pumps by using underground cool pockets.

The ground several feet below the surface maintains a constant temperature year-round, making geothermal energy a reliable and renewable source. Any excess heat from the unit will be distributed into storage wells where the energy can be stored for later use.

The minimal amount of maintenance associated with these systems means the units can have a lifetime of 20-30 years, further reducing the cost.

The new dorms will also use non-gaseous carpeting and light-harvesting sensors, which cause less harm to the environment and are more efficient.

The school estimates that the project will cost over \$2 million in all, but they expect to earn that money back with their "green" innovations within just a few years.

In a continuing attempt to make the campus environmentally friendly, the administration at West Chester plans to completely replace its coal power plant with geothermal energy systems.

Egyptian photos able to be viewed on the Web

This month, Web surfers will have the chance to experience the discoveries of a Hopkins archaeological team in Egypt.

Daily photos, captured by Hopkins photographer Jay VanRensselaer, will be uploaded to the Hopkins in Egypt Today Web site and will include detailed captions to allow visitors to view their dig in progress. The team has been working in Luxor for 13 years, the last eight of which have been spent at the temple of the goddess Mut. Their annual digs aim to uncover more about the Egyptian New Kingdom (1567 to 1085 B.C.).

In years prior, the group, led by Betsy Bryan, Hopkins's Alexander Badawy Professor in Egyptian Art and Archaeology, has made finds such as bakeries, granaries and other innovations of the ancient Egyptians.

In 2006, Bryan's team made the exciting discovery of a statue of Queen Tiye, which is now located in the Cairo Museum. The current dig can be followed at <http://www.jhu.edu/egypttoday>.

— All briefs written by Alex Vockroth

Timberline
FOUR SEASONS RESORT
Davis, West Virginia

College Days

Lift Ticket \$17.00
Ski Rental \$12.00
Lesson \$15.00

March 3- April 1, 2008
&
EVERY THURSDAY

Group Rates Starting at \$89 a Night Midweek

The packages include skiing, slopeside bunkhouse lodging and free ski rentals. Other lodging available thru 1-800-392-0152.

This Spring Break
Skip the Beach
the Snow is with in Reach
Skj Timberline!

Call **800 * SNOWING**
for reservations.

Timberline
FOUR SEASONS REALTY

West Virginia
Wild and Wonderful

ACADEMY AWARD® NOMINATION
BEST ANIMATED FEATURE

"LIKE NOTHING YOU'VE EVER SEEN!"
— Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

PERSEPOLIS
A FILM BY MARJAN SATRAPI AND VINCENT PARONHAUD
WWW.SONYCLASSICS.COM

PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
SOME MATERIAL MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 13

THE CHARLES
1711 N. Charles St. 410 727-FILM
WWW.PERSEPOLISMOVIE.COM

The confessions of a fashion magazine addict

I ignore the people who tell me that I take fashion too seriously; I love clothes and I love wearing them in fun, interesting and sometimes unusual ways. As anyone who has walked into my room can attest to the fact I am a fashion magazine whore.

From *Elle* to *Glamour*, if it lists the top 10 new looks for summer and can tell me the best way to dress for my body type, I will read it. Nothing is better than sinking into a couch on a lazy afternoon with a cup of hot tea and the newest issue of *Vogue*.

However, as I start to flip through the pages, I begin to realize that I can neither afford nor realistically wear anything that Anna Wintour has chosen to feature.

While a "luscious jewel-tone shift in silk twill that doubles and redoubles back on itself like so many enormous ruffles" from Proenza Schouler sounds marvelous, the close-to-five-digit price tag and the fact that I, sadly, have nowhere to wear a dress like that makes me feel as if spending the \$4.99 on the magazine was a waste of a large raspberry gelato from Café Q.

"Shopping" magazines like *Lucky* do feature clothing that is wearable, though the \$375 3.1 Phillip Lim jacket is still well beyond my price range. Yet I continue to buy these magazines regularly (I really should just mail those inserts in and subscribe) because looking at the featured clothing can give me a sense of what to look for when I go shopping for price tags that don't empty my bank account.

Extracting the wearable from magazines is the best way to personalize looks and avoid looking too trendy.

Now I know what some of you are thinking. When you only have 20 minutes to get out the door and make a mad dash across campus to your first class of the day, the

last thing you want to be thinking about is wearing something "fashionable" when something "comfortable" is so much more enticing.

However, with a few strategic shopping moves (like buying that perfectly cozy no-fuss dress) and some approachable pointers, it's really just as easy to look like you stepped out of one of my magazines as it is to pull on those ratty sweatpants.

As we enter the in-between season, not quite cold enough for winter clothes but too early for spring, it is a little difficult to find the right thing to wear. Here are some looks, both modern and timeless, which I will be wearing over the next few months.

Gray and navy as neutrals: Black and tan will always be classic, but gray and navy are subtle, fresh and match almost anything. I wear my gray

boots nearly every day and have too many navy shirts, jackets and skirts to count. Try a navy dress instead of the go-to little black dress.

Statement jewelry: Instead of wearing studs, a small heart pendant on a delicate chain and thin banded ring, go for one interesting piece that will add another dimension to your outfit. This is a really simple trick to instantly "de-plain" your outfit. Try a cocktail ring ("brass knuckles" as one friend put it), a necklace with a large pendant, a cuff or big dangly earrings.

Remember — only one at a time. My biggest fashion pet peeve is over-accessorizing.

Wear something pretty: A dress with ruffles cascading down the skirt is a bit prom, but one or two ballet-inspired piece adds just the right amount of femininity. Go for satin flats, a ruffled camisole under a sweater or anything in a soft pink.

Bold prints: The newest ones are Jackson Pollock-like paint



MATT HANSEN/GRAPHICS EDITOR

splatters, blocks of colors and cool Bohemian florals. Try a patterned dress if you are feeling brave or a scarf if prints make you nervous.

Slimmer-cut dresses: I breathed a huge sigh of relief when I could finally find dresses that couldn't double as a tent. While trapeze dresses had their moment, thankfully it has passed. Tailored fits are now easier to find and are always more flattering.

Shirt dresses are a current favorite; they can be worn either for an everyday casual look with flats and a belt or with heels and a stack of bangles for going out. There is no shame in being fashionable when hitting the frats or the Den.

Bright colors: Sticking to jeans and a black/gray/brown top is easy and safe, but colors are so much more interesting.

There are so many ways to incorporate orange, yellow or purple into an outfit without looking like the life size version of a jawbreaker.

A turquoise scarf or pair of gloves is great for winter, and a bright red or orange bag is perfect for spring.

If you really want to be noticed, wear a fuchsia or a bright blue top. And wearing contrasting colors at once? Well, that's just plain cool.

Belts: While the summertime begs for loose fitting tops and breezy dresses, the best way to wear them earlier in the spring is to belt and layer. Belts can also make an outfit out of any two separates.

Narrow ones look best with cardigans and wide belts work well with loose shirts or dresses. Experiment and even try wearing a couple of thin belts at the same time.

Black and white: Always sharp and always classy.

Most important — make sure you always feel comfortable in what you wear. Taking risks is great, but clothes should not make you feel self-conscious. Learn what looks good on you, and wear it with confidence.

Leora Brody is a sophomore International Studies major and business minor from Monsey, N.Y.

What the lusty lass lost over the centuries

Who has more fun: 21st century blondes or 17th century blondes? Clearly the answer is brunettes. Regardless, let's compare the eras a bit.

In the 1600s, women were considered to be naturally lusty, and a healthy woman required a certain amount of sex to be healthy. And that works out well, if all women are to be generalized as being a certain level of slutty. In the 21st century there are a lot of diverse sexual practices, but many of them elicit a disapproving response and are kept to a taboo status.

The scorn of your 17th-century neighbor was hard to induce and fairly easy to escape: Premarital cuddling up to third base was relatively acceptable and commonplace, and premarital intercourse was excusable provided there was a spoken agreement of a marriage. Clearly this "promise" nonsense isn't a prerequisite for anything anymore, and the limits of sexual encounters are a strictly individual matter.

Another perk is that it was believed that mutual pleasure was necessary for conception. Fifteen seconds and passing out wasn't acceptable back then, but 400 years later we just shrug and reach for a vibrator. Seems like those 17th-century women had equality on their side — sure, there wasn't as much variety in sexual positions and the occupations and social roles were pretty shabby, but at least there was a standard of sexual prowess men had to uphold.

If a 17th-century man didn't want to be mocked at the tavern, he had to do a decent job with the weaver's daughter. If a 21st-century man doesn't want to be mocked at the bar, all he has to do is get off. What we need here is a stronger sense of community watch — voyeurism, and lots of it.

It was believed that conception was a result of mutual contribu-

tion of "seed," which could only be released when both partners were feeling sexual pleasure. The baby's gender was also more egalitarian in determination: Genetics tell us that it's all the man's fault, but in the 17th century, whoever's "seed" was stronger determined the baby's gender. However, there were two downsides to this view of mutual sexual pleasure as essential.

Another problem with pleasure being a prerequisite of conception was that it was nearly impossible for a woman to file a paternity suit. That is, it was much harder to convict a man of rape, since if she got pregnant, she must have enjoyed it and that, to their minds, ruled out rape. While premarital sex was fairly liberally accepted, extra-marital sex was not.

The assumption that women needed sexual encounters to be healthy did not excuse cuckolding, and adultery was considered a grave crime indeed. Thankfully 21st-century views are a lot less morally restricting.

In America, adultery laws are delegated to the states, which has resulted in many lax or non-existent laws. Most states simply include adultery as grounds for divorce and an impact on alimony and custody issues.

In the spectrum of womanly recognition, the highest echelon was being a reproducing married woman. That is, having legitimate sex was the best and most respected profession available.

I'm all for equality, but was that such a bad idea? Now we have all this fancy equality talk, and women are expected to achieve just as lofty and difficult careers as men. Being a doctor is great, but being a trophy wife seems pretty nice too.

I'm going to continue to assert that brunettes have more fun and that, for the sake of sex in the shower, the 21st century wins by a nose.

Grace Gwendolyn Henry is currently accepting applications for trophy husbands and can be reached at grace.henry@jhunewsletter.com.



Grace Gwendolyn Henry
Henry
That's What She Said

How to fight those unwanted cravings

When do your cravings strike — late at night, while watching TV, when you see or smell your temptation?

Most of us have experienced cravings of some sort, whether it is for sweets, salty snacks or a steak dinner.

Giving in to your cravings can interfere with your fitness goals by leading to unwanted pounds.

It is important to understand what is causing cravings and to implement ways of curbing them without feeling deprived of foods you enjoy.

Our appetites are controlled by hormones in the body called leptin and ghrelin. Leptin is responsible for telling you when you're full and ghrelin sends the signal to your brain to eat. These hormones are affected by different behaviors and hormonal changes.

Drinking more water throughout the day quells cravings. Your body recognizes water as a nutrient, so by drinking it you feel fuller and eat less. Try drinking a glass of water before and after meals to fill up — the stomach can only store so much.

Keep berries or grapes around to snack on when your sweet-tooth demands attention — they're healthy and packed with water. Stress causes an increase in cortisol levels, which can increase your appetite and cravings for fatty and high calorie foods.

Think giving in to stress cravings by taking a spoon to a carton of Ben & Jerry's will make you feel better and calmer? Sure, you get a short moment of Chunky Monkey-fueled nirvana, but overall you actually just increased the stress because now you're left feeling guilty and bloated.

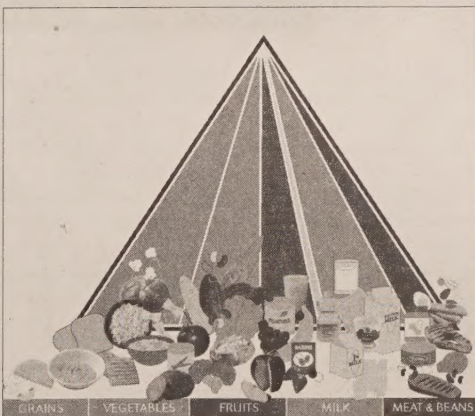
Try taking a walk or run or doing a quick 20-minute exercise routine at the gym. The increase in blood flow and oxygen to your brain gives you more energy, releases relaxing endorphines and gives you time to calm down.

The amount of shut eye you're getting each night can effect your levels of leptin and ghrelin. When you don't get enough sleep, your leptin levels may decrease, making you

less sensitive to feeling full — while your ghrelin levels increase, causing hunger.

Shoot for seven to nine hours of sleep each night — I know this can be difficult with demanding schedules, but if you know you will be out late on the weekend, try getting to bed 30 minutes earlier during the week to balance it out.

A recent study found that chewing gum helped decrease hunger and cravings among individuals who limit overall calorie



COURTESY OF WWW.DIABETES-IDIET.COM

The food pyramid gives recommendations on eating healthy.

lead to overeating when you sit down for a meal. When you think, "Well, I can eat this because I haven't eaten all day," it makes it easier to give in to unwanted cravings.

In fact, not eating all day and then bingeing on unhealthy snacks causes a sudden spike in your blood sugar levels, making you more likely to store fat.

To keep your blood sugar levels stable, eat small meals throughout the day. This will not only help diminish cravings but will also boost your metabolism making weight management easier.

If you know you walk through the door at the end of a long day and eat whatever is in sight, be sure to keep healthier choices available so you don't fall prey to choosing less-nutritious foods.

Try having a healthier version of your favorite snacks a few times a week — pretzels instead of chips, graham crackers instead of cookies, chocolate Jell-O pudding instead of ice cream.

But remember, it's okay to give in to your cravings every now and then. Sometimes if you don't satisfy a craving, you can end up eating more then you would if you just had what you really want.

The important thing is to keep everything in appropriate serving sizes and not give into every craving by having an alternate plan of action.

Kelly Gonzalez can be reached at KellyGFitness9@yahoo.com.



Kelly Gonzalez
Busy Bodies

intake. As soon as you finish eating a meal, brush your teeth. Not only do you get the dental benefits, but you also inhibit senseless snacking.

Your body and mind learn to want whatever you normally eat. Therefore, if you eat sugary cereal for breakfast, you body is going to go cuckoo for Cocoa Puffs.

If you eat a balanced diet consisting of complex carbohydrates, fruits, vegetables and lean protein, while limiting your consumption of highly processed foods then just the reverse will happen — you will have fewer cravings for foods that are detrimental to your overall health goals.

I'm not saying you have to gnaw on celery sticks everyday and always pass on dessert. Allow yourself to have one treat per day so you don't feel deprived.

Never skip meals — this can

Are you:

- young
- sexy
- male

- willing to write?

Apply to be our male sex columnist!

Are you:

- into food
- interested in exploring Baltimore
- willing to write?

Apply to be our dining columnist!

Email: News@jhunewsletter.com

THE JOHNS HOPKINS

NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

EDITORIAL

The Council’s step forward

It isn't easy to rile the Student Council. Sudan divestment, carbon neutrality, rising tuition — none of these issues, the transcendent social and political challenges of our time, seem to have captured the interest of our representative body.

And yet, on Tuesday night, the members of the Council were surprisingly angry.

That anger was clear in a sweeping resolution passed overwhelmingly by the Council Tuesday night. The document and its prefatory letter — sprawling in their scope and stinging in their directness — mounted a rather blistering and surprisingly confrontational attack on the administration for its consistent failure to engage students in the decision-making process.

The resolution points out a number of specific policies — internship credit and study abroad among them — that the University has decided abruptly and unilaterally to change, without so much as one public solicitation of student input.

This page has often criticized the Council for its lackluster attitude toward matters of institutional and academic importance. Indeed, one might argue that the Council had ample time to protest these decisions when they were made, some as recently as last year.

Nonetheless this administration has been unflinchingly inward looking when it comes to some of the most basic and far-reaching policy decisions affecting the lives of Hopkins students. And now that the Council seems to have finally shaken itself out of a persistent bureaucratic malaise, we wish not only to laud them for their efforts but join them.

The Council makes a number of specific demands in its resolution, all of which deal in some way with spanning the gap between the University and its students. The Council has requested regular meetings with the principle deans of each school as well as the president himself; they have also asked for unmitigated access to administrative decision-makers and, importantly, financial information the University has previously kept secret.

Each of these demands is reasonable, productive and grounded in precedent at other schools; the University should agree to them immediately and without exception.

It is clear simply from widespread student dissatisfaction with a number of recent administrative decisions that the process for making those decisions is systematically flawed. The University claims, for example, that the committees it assembles to amend such policies as internship credit and the curriculum contain an appropriate level of student representation.

We find that baffling given the actual composition of these committees, the vast of majority of which are filled with high-level faculty and administrators. Even if one or two students manage to sneak onto these committees, who among them would be willing to challenge seriously the opinions of those administrators? Students are dramatically outnumbered on these committees, so even those brave few who manage to voice their complaints would likely be outmanned by the rest of the committee's members.

The only real way for the University to acknowledge the interests and respect the opinions of its students is to grant our representatives access to the University's decision-making process.

The Council, as the students' elected, representative body, should have an intimate role in the University's dealings. This requires the administration to be more transparent in its affairs. This page has frequently called for greater transparency on the part of the administration, including its endowment, investments and tuition costs.

We encourage the Council to maintain its pressure on the University and we join them in their rebuke of the administration. Hopefully the Council will remain riled long enough to see its objectives through.

Reel Big Disappointment

In 2003, when Reel Big Fish last performed at Hopkins, ska was on its last legs. The trumpet-infused punk sounds, the wild jumping up and down and bands such as No Doubt and the Mighty Mighty Bosstones conjure up memories of years past.

This Spring Fair, Hopkins students will be given the opportunity to relive this relic of the past. Instead of a fresh, innovative act, the Spring Fair committee chose a band whose genre was last popular when current Hopkins students were still in middle school.

Spring Fair, the most anticipated event of the year, is an opportunity for Hopkins to bring in a musical act to campus that energizes the student body. The act does not necessarily have to a big name, as there are a plethora of smaller, up-and-coming bands that are creating exciting and innovative music.

Given that, a limitation of funds should not be an excuse for this year's selection. Even if Spring Fair had received a relatively low budget, they still had the option of choosing a less well-known, yet more innovative band that could excite students. This year's choice was not so much about lack of funds but rather lack of imagination.

While Reel Big Fish's genre is an artifact of the '90s, its members are not. Only one of the current members was a part of the group's original lineup. The Reel Big Fish that will come this spring is essentially a cover band of the late-'90s version, the last time they were at all relevant. We do not deny that some students will be happy about this year's Spring Fair selection, whether this is due to nostalgia or genuine enthusiasm.

However, the Spring Fair musical selection should be a group or artist that can both excite a wide swath of the student body as well as feature music that is contemporary and relevant. Hopefully next year's Spring Fair Committee won't look to yesteryear for their selection.

End the housing mandate

For years sophomores in Greek life have been able to live in Greek housing, exempted from the University's mandate that sophomores live in on-campus housing. These students were able to enjoy living with their fellow frat brothers in cheaper housing than most other sophomores. Now the University has decided to end this policy.

The reasoning that the University is using to explain this action is, at best, unconvincing. Their argument is that campus housing is so good and beneficial to students that offering an exemption to students in Greek life can no longer be justified.

They suggest that the recent upgrades in on-campus housing offer the optimal amenities and security so that sophomores don't have a better choice. This is an interesting comment, since Charles Commons was initially intended for juniors and seniors to have an on-campus option. Juniors and seniors do have this option yet many continue to choose to live off-campus. After all, rent in off-campus housing is generally cheaper than housing offered by the University.

It appears quite obvious that the real reason that the University is making this move is because they want more money from sophomores. It is understandable that the University wants to make money: It is a profit-seeking organization.

However, the administration must remember that this is a school, not a corporation. Profit cannot be the sole motivator in the University's actions when it is dealing with students.

Students are hit so many times with the financial burdens that come with tuition, textbooks, food and so on. The cost of housing is yet another detrimental burden. Students must have adequate housing, but at the same time, they deserve something affordable. For the sake of the student body at Hopkins, the price of living on campus should be as low as possible.

The University should subject its housing to the same effects of supply and demand as the surrounding apartments. This should apply not only to juniors and seniors, but to sophomores as well.

It is important for freshmen to live on campus, for security reasons, to adjust to a new environment, to integrate themselves into the campus and to get involved in Homewood activity. But beyond freshman year, students should be offered options, not mandates.

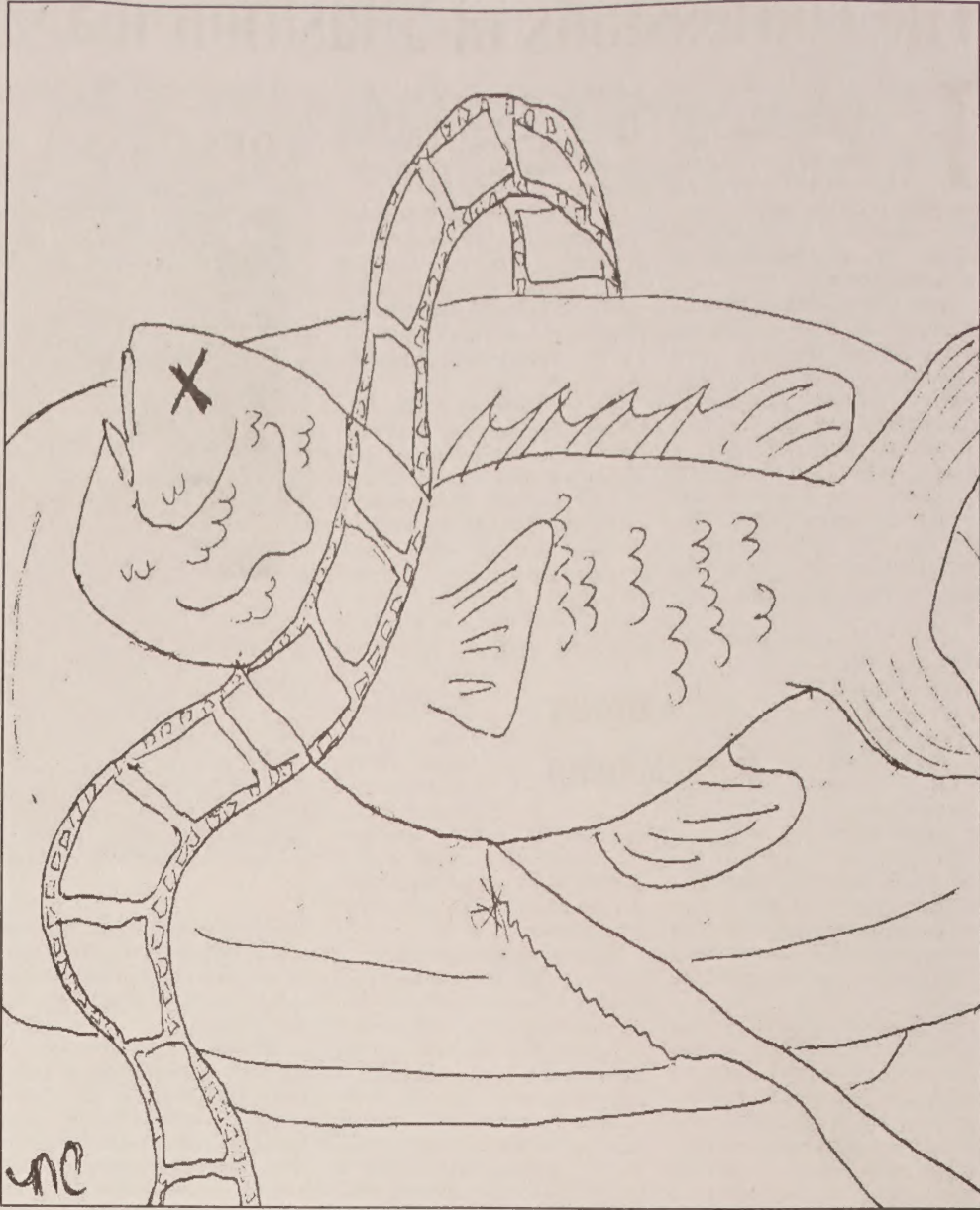
Of course, students who wish to remain on campus should be allowed to do so. On-campus housing has its benefits: security, proximity and amenities, to name a few. But on-campus housing also has its drawbacks.

The University should trust its students and put the choice in their hands. Students who want to participate in Greek housing or the independence of living in an apartment should be allowed to.

According to several fraternities, the University's decision to no longer allow sophomores to live in fraternity houses may threaten their ability to have houses in the future, due to the high number of sophomores who fill their rooms. The University should be sensitive to the fact that fraternity houses are important to the collegiate culture. Many students have been positively impacted by their experiences living in these houses.

If University housing is as great as the administration claims, students willing to fork up the money to live in Charles Commons or Homewood will want to live there. Otherwise the University will have to open up to market forces and either drop its prices or improve the quality of its housing to remain competitive with the other housing options.

Natachi Chukumerije



LETTERS POLICY

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words. Letters must be delivered to the Gatehouse by Tuesday at 7 p.m. or e-mailed to News.Letter@jhu.edu for inclusion in that Thursday's issue. All letters received become property of the News-Letter and cannot be returned. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include the name, address and telephone number of the author. Only one author's name may be included. Groups, teams and other organizations may not submit letters, only individuals. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS

NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

HTTP://WWW.JHUNEWLETTER.COM

EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF	Sal Gentile, Sammy Rose Saltzman
MANAGING EDITORS	Alex Begley, Alex Traum
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITORS	Laura Bitner, Conor Kevit
GRAPHICS EDITOR	Matt Hansen
COPY EDITORS	Liz Schwartzberg, Alex Vockroth
SPECIAL EDITIONS EDITOR	Anum Azam
NEWS & FEATURES EDITORS	Heather Barbakoff, Marie Cushing,
	Max McKenna, Katlyn Torgerson
	Dylan Diggs
OPINIONS EDITOR	Mary Doman, Demian Kendall
SPORTS EDITORS	John Kernan, Sarah Sabshon
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITORS	Stephen Berger
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR	Cara Selick
YOUR NEWS-LETTER EDITOR	Dana Covit
CALENDAR EDITOR	Nate Min
CARTOONS EDITOR	James Freedman, Raja Vallarapu
ONLINE EDITORS	Angeli Bueno, Andrea Nelson
PHOTOGRAPHY ASSISTANTS	

Copy Staff

Ann Wang

Web Assistants

Murat Bilgel, Hao-Min Pan,
Michael Szeto

BUSINESS BOARD

BUSINESS MANAGER	Scott Motejunas
MARKETING DIRECTOR	Rebecca Wolff
MARKETING ASSOCIATES	Dorothy Giannos, Scott Goldsmith, Minnie
	Lee, Sebastian Salas-Vega, Jenny Wong
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR	Shayna Abramson
DISTRIBUTION STAFF	Anum Azam, Mark Mehlinger,
	Phil Roberts

THE JOHNS HOPKINS

NEWS-LETTER

The Gatehouse
(on the corner of N. Charles Street
and Art Museum Drive)

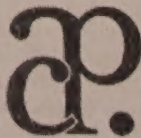
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter is published every Thursday during the academic year by the students of The Johns Hopkins University with the exception of holidays, exam periods and vacations. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the editorial board. All submissions become property of the News-Letter.

Business hours are Mondays through Fridays, 1-5 p.m. The deadline for advertisements is 5 p.m. on the Tuesday before the Thursday of publication. Subscriptions are available to our readers for \$35 per semester, \$70 for the full academic year. The total circulation to the local campuses of Johns Hopkins (Homewood, Medical School and Hospital, Peabody, Downtown Center), area colleges and the greater Baltimore region is 6,200.

©2008 The Johns Hopkins News-Letter. No material in this issue may be reproduced without the expressed written permission of the Editors-in-Chief.

Mailing Address:
Levering Suite 102
The Johns Hopkins University
3400 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

Main Phone Number: (410) 516-6000
Business/Advertising: (410) 516-4228
Fax Number: (410) 516-6565
E-mail: News.Letter@jhu.edu
<http://www.jhunewsletter.com>



With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

OPINIONS

Respecting diversity in the military

By AARON GLASER

It is out of the great respect I have for those in the Hopkins ROTC program and all who have or are currently serving in the armed forces that I write this opinion. Those associated with this program have all decided that their love for their country is so strong that they will give four years of military service to the United States, regardless of any personal feelings they might have as to the wisdom of their orders. I only wish I was of such strong character.

I realize that Jewish-Americans are generally not associated with the armed forces; today many stereotype the Jewish community as being comprised of wealthy, liberal individuals opposed to the Bush administration and its policies, and therefore certainly not a segment of the American population that is joining the armed forces in record numbers. Yet lost in such a stereotype are facts that point to a proud and long-standing tradition of military service within the Jewish-American community.

During the American Revolution Lt. Col. Solomon Bush was the highest ranking Jewish officer in the Continental Army; he was badly wounded at the battle of Brandywine, the same battle where his brother, Capt. Lewis Bush, was killed. During the Civil War 8,500 Jews served for both Union and Confederate forces.

During World War II, 550,000 Jewish men and women served in the U.S. armed forces. The proud military legacy began by Lt. Col. Bush and Capt. Bush has carried on through every American war, including today's, with 5,000 to 8,000 Jews currently serving in the U.S.

Aaron Glaser is a graduate student in government from Nanuet, N.Y.

armed forces.

However, here at Hopkins, this nearly 233-year military tradition of Jewish service in the American military seems not only forgotten, but worse, continually trampled on.

This year, on April 19, the Blue Jay Battalion, the Battalion representing those Hopkins students in the U.S. Army's ROTC program, will have their annual year-end military banquet and award ceremony. Such a joyous event is being held on the first night of the Jewish holiday of Passover, the holiday which celebrates God's bringing the Jewish people out of Egypt and the beginning of their journey to the Holy Land.

One could label such an occurrence a bad coincidence. Except, as anyone who has ever requested rooms at Hopkins knows, rooms such as the Glass Pavilion, where the banquet has been and will be held, have to be scheduled months in advance.

Therefore, when Lt. Col. Ken Romaine, the commander of the Blue Battalion, scheduled this year's banquet, he either did not check a calendar to see if it conflicted with a major event or religious holiday or, worse, months ago, he checked a calendar, saw April 19 was the first night of Passover, and still decided to schedule the banquet on the same night.

What's worse is that this is the second time Romaine seems to have committed such a grievous mistake; the Hopkins Blue Jay Battalion's 2005 banquet was also held on the first night of Passover.

Lt. Col. Ken Romaine, the commander of the Blue Jay Battalion and



the man who approved the banquet dates in 2005 and 2008, is by all accounts an intelligent man, as well as a hero; he is a West Point graduate, a man who has served in the Army on active duty for nearly 20 years and has served and been wounded in the current war in Iraq. Yet by repeatedly scheduling a formal banquet on the first night of Passover he also seems to be a man whose actions trample on the memory of Jewish-American veterans, as well as dishonor those Jews currently serving in the armed forces.

Further, Romaine has Jewish cadets under his command within the Blue Jay Battalion. Therefore, in 2005 and in 2008, he forced persons under his command to choose between attending the banquet and continuing their religious tradition; to, in effect, choose between their allegiance to their country and their allegiance to their God.

The actions of Romaine have demon-

strated, in effect, if not in intent, a blatant disregard for the military service rendered by Jewish-Americans in the past and in the present-day.

I know Romaine has forced persons under his command to choose between upholding their obligations to their country or their beliefs in God. And I know that by continually demonstrating such disrespect and forcing cadets to make such a horrible choice, Romaine shows, by example, to all the cadets under his command that it is okay to trample on the military legacy of Jewish-American veterans, and that it is acceptable to schedule events on Jewish Holy Days.

So I plead with Romaine to lead by example and to honor the hundreds of thousands of Jewish veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces, as well as veterans of other faiths, by moving the date of the banquet so it does not conflict with Passover or any other religious holiday.

Letter to the Olympic Committee: Forget Beijing, go with Baltimore

Baltimore is known as Charm City, the City that Reads and the Greatest City in America, and yet has never experienced the honor of hosting the ultimate competition in sports: The Summer Olympics.

We, the Baltimore Olympic Committee, feel that a proper demonstration of Baltimore's truly unique status as a host city, especially when compared to other host cities, will show that our fair metropolis is the ideal place to hold the 2016 Games.

This committee firmly believes that the Baltimore/Washington, D.C. Olympic bid of a few years ago was eliminated not because of partisan politics, but instead because of the presence of Washington, D.C. Standing alone, Baltimore's qualities will shine brightly and will not be dragged down by that potemkin village of politicians and lawyers.

The first concern for any Olympic bid is facilities. Baltimore already has two world-class facilities for baseball and football, and would certainly be able to build more with public money.

Marylanders have been extremely receptive to the idea of funding octannually useful public buildings with taxpayer dollars, and we surely could convince them to do it again. Besides, few other host cities can boast that they already

successfully raised public money and built their facilities. There's no doubt that Maryland voters are ready to front public money for worthy causes again.

Air quality is another issue that Baltimore is prepared to tackle. According to many reports, Kenyan marathoners are boycotting the Beijing Games because they are worried that it is not actually safe for humans or animals to breathe anywhere near the city. Beijing officials have claimed that they will shut down their factories, mills and foundries during the day in order to alleviate air quality concerns. Baltimore is ahead of the curve in clearing the air by shutting down nearly all of its steel mills.

In fact, Baltimore has led the way in getting rid of manufacturing plants and mills that result in polluted air. This has also had the added benefit of having fewer people driving in the city, which decreases carbon emissions. Thanks to the plan to shut down our dirty mills, Baltimore boasts some of the cleanest air in the country.

Hosting the Olympics means that people have to get where they need to go quickly and safely. Baltimore's transportation network is second to none. Baltimore's public transportation is among the

safest in the United States; stabbings and murders on MTA buses are a true rarity. Any driver will tell you that Baltimore's roads are smooth and nearly pothole free; just a few repairs would be needed to fix the odd shock-busting bump.

And just think about traffic; I-695 is a wonderful way to reach anywhere in the greater Baltimore area and only occasionally experiences traffic jams that do not permit a driver to move for hours. With minor expansion, it would be ready to accommodate the thousands of drivers who would be expected to arrive for the Olympics. You can top it all off with Baltimore's own drivers, from cabbies to commuters, who are just about the friendliest bunch of folks you'll ever have the courtesy to have to yield to.

Intangibles are some of the important things that a city needs to host a successful Olympic Games. Vacationing foreign nationals love to party; they will be in heaven with Baltimore having the highest amount of liquor stores per capita in the nation. Baltimore even handily beats out traditional party centers like Miami.

The charm of the Charm City's tightly knit neighborhoods is apparent, especially if you disregard the "murder every 30 hours" statistic. Baltimore's row

houses are inviting for visitors; hopefully they will stay and buy them, many of which can now be gotten for a steal. We should also point out that Baltimore's literacy statistics match up well with those from other host cities like Beijing.

Baltimore's homicide rate has also shown signs that it could come down — there have been fewer homicides in 2008 than there were in 2007; we expect this to be true for most of the remainder of the year. Perhaps most importantly, due to the success of the "BELIEVE" program, Baltimore's streets are now clean as a whistle.

Baltimore is extremely capable of hosting the finest Summer Olympics of our time. To overlook this fine city would be to overlook the American spirit itself. Baltimore's many detractors are pessimistic miscreants and should be categorically ignored. The city has turned itself around and is moving in the right direction. Hosting the Olympics would show that we've made it.

Sincerely,
The Baltimore Olympic Committee

Colin Ray is a junior English major from Chardon, Ohio, and bitter about Cleveland's failed attempt to get the 1932 Summer Games.

Colin Ray

Indicators of change

As a freshman in college, I have experienced a number of "life lessons" recently. Interestingly enough, my latest began with an episode of *Mythbusters*. Allow me to tell the story from the beginning.

The recent episode of *Mythbusters* featured a rather controversial question that had been sparking heated discussions on countless Internet forums: If a plane is placed on a conveyor belt which exactly matches the speed of the plane (but in the opposite direction), will the plane take off?

After eagerly waiting, along with the rest of the Internet community, for the verdict, like the rest of what I will call "no-flies," I was sorely disappointed when the plane did take off.

Soon, half of the posts on the *Mythbusters* message board were "I told you so," while the other half were, like me, upset at the outcome and the testing method. After reading the relentless back-and-forth, I came to the conclusion that the question was too vague to have a definite conclusion.

So I decided to blog as well. "Blame the question," I said, offering a conciliatory comment. "Not the intelligence of a

fellow debater." And I let it go; there was no use arguing if someone would always argue back.

However, it wasn't long until a hot-headed "will-fly" found my blog, leaving 400 words of suspected cut-and-paste fodder in the comments. I hadn't outright said I was correct, but he said *he* was and went on to detail exactly why I was wrong. Hadn't I given up and waved the white flag? And yet here was a complete stranger, taking the effort to find personal blogs on the subject and tell the owners they were "stupid" and "stubborn."

He probably did a shirtless victory dance in front of the mirror because he thought *he won*. I can imagine he went to bed pretty satisfied that night, no doubt after unleashing more of his pompous views on those who didn't want to hear them. (Congratulations, Dan from Canada.)

So why is it so important to "win"? Whether it be a board game or an argument with an ex (or a complete stranger), it's too often paramount to be the one who KO's the other. Ironically, "coming out on top" usually involves dirty, low tactics like slanderous your opponent's name ("She cheated on me," an ex-boyfriend told anyone who would listen, referring to the single rebound kiss I'd

had after we'd broken up). Arrogance, it seems, is a big part of human nature.

In Xenophon's *Oeconomicus*, Socrates constantly poses questions to Cristobulus, who encourages Socrates by answering exactly as he wants. As a result, Socrates is able to further his points and have the last word on the subject. Though Socrates isn't really hurting anyone by being "right" — Cristobulus often even agrees with him — it is evident that Socrates takes a certain amount of pride in his arguments. And Cristobulus seems to be proud to have been in discussion with him.

In this case, a little bit of arrogance is dismissable; neither party minds, and all ends well.

If two people have opposing views and won't admit defeat, however, then there's a problem. In today's society, it seems commonplace to claw your way to the finish line, to exhaust, humiliate or otherwise hurt your opponent until you win. But is it really necessary?

When a friend recently confronted her ex-boyfriend about how she'd felt used and guilted into having sex with him, he told her in response, "Bitch, it was the only way I knew how to control you." I was stunned. She'd been head-over-heels for him, and he'd in return insulted her, making her look like the

reason for the breakup. Was it even necessary to "control" her? Besides wanting to win the argument they were in, did he have to own their relationship too?

I'll admit, I'm not the most easygoing or modest person in the world. On the contrary, I've got a terrible temper and can be borderline cocky at times, but of course I'm self-conscious inside. Everyone is.

If anything, that self-consciousness brings out the arrogance. We think, "What will people think of me?" The guards go up. We make excuses and blame others so that we ourselves can look good — we're human, after all. But it needs to stop when we sacrifice others' feelings and reputations for our own.

Though it's a little unfair that my friend's ex can feel as if he won the argument, perhaps the most important thing I've learned over the years (and am still learning) is just to *let things go*. My friend reminded me of that by dismissing his sentiments and instead moving on.

Just know, regardless of how many attacks you fall under, how many times you feel like everyone believes *you're* to blame, you don't need to win. Let them believe they did. Avoid further confrontation and frustration. Instead, make peace with yourself. And revel in the fact that arrogance, unlike ignorance, is not bliss.

College can be like The Wizard of Oz

By PHILIP CASTROVINCI

I have a bit of a routine in my life. Wake up, stay in bed as long as possible, go to class, get food, do something (my afternoons seem to evaporate) and then head home, all relaxed with a bit of free time. Many times I watch some TV or plan to do laundry, reading, etc. ... very "me-time kind of activities." Then it happens.

It can happen at any moment, or come from any one of the 4,000 plus kids on campus. It could be in person, in a phone call or in a text message. Someone, somewhere, asks in an optimistic tone, "Yo, you goin' out tonight?" I hate encountering this question as part of my routine more than waking up with a hangover.

Don't get me wrong, after a long week or a long day, I enjoy nothing more than "setting my hair on fire." My past four years here have ensured that I can never run for public office, and I don't regret that, but just the question, phrased that way, makes my skin crawl.

The answers that follow this incessant query are interesting. If you have a serious amount of work, or indeed there is some mutual hardship going on (midterms, etc.), the answer can be a socially acceptable "No."

On the other hand, when the opposite is the case (orientation, etc.) there is almost an assumed yes. But the middle ground is a tough sell for me. If you say no, then does that mean you are not a fun person? Can you not allocate enough personal capital to make it a worthwhile endeavor? Perhaps. So the answer comes back a very neutral, "I dunno, are you?" There must be a better way.

"Yo, you goin' out tonight?" I particularly hate it the earlier in the week it comes. On Tuesday night, I have some things to do, and I don't regret the time I spent having fun on the weekend, but do I really need to do this again? What does it even mean to "go out" anyway? Do we have to go to a bar? Is it enough to watch TV at a friend's house? Must you be trying to get laid? It means none of this.

What about going downstairs to PJ's? If you have a social routine, and it gets a bit too set for a while, when you break it, is that going out? So. If you go to PJ's every other night, and all of a sudden you think it would be a better idea to go to the movies with friends, is that going out? It's all going out! But it's like pornography, I know it when I see it (thanks George).

Where is out? What do you do there? In my experience, I feel like Dorothy in the *The Wizard of Oz*: It takes a while to collect a group of halfwits who think their lives will be improved by going out. We travel about and sometimes have to fight off a witch or two who seem to melt when splashed with beer instead of water.

Then when we get there, on average we discover something about ourselves and about "out." Instead of the Wizard of Oz, we have Rhonda at PJ's, and instead of looking for courage, it's liquid courage.

Just ask what you really want to know. "What are your plans for the evening?" Or are you saying, "I have nothing to do, so please, whatever you're doing, take me with you." It gets even better on away messages. If you really want to signal to the world the amount of social capital you have, just write in your away message "out," or if you are really ambitious "downtown."

I had a friend who would do that even when we did something domestically: either stay at our house or in Charles Village (many times even when we would go to the library). Invariably, he would write "downtown" in his away message. It's nothing to have an intervention about, but it is interesting. Is he on his way to Oz? Does he need a heart? Courage?

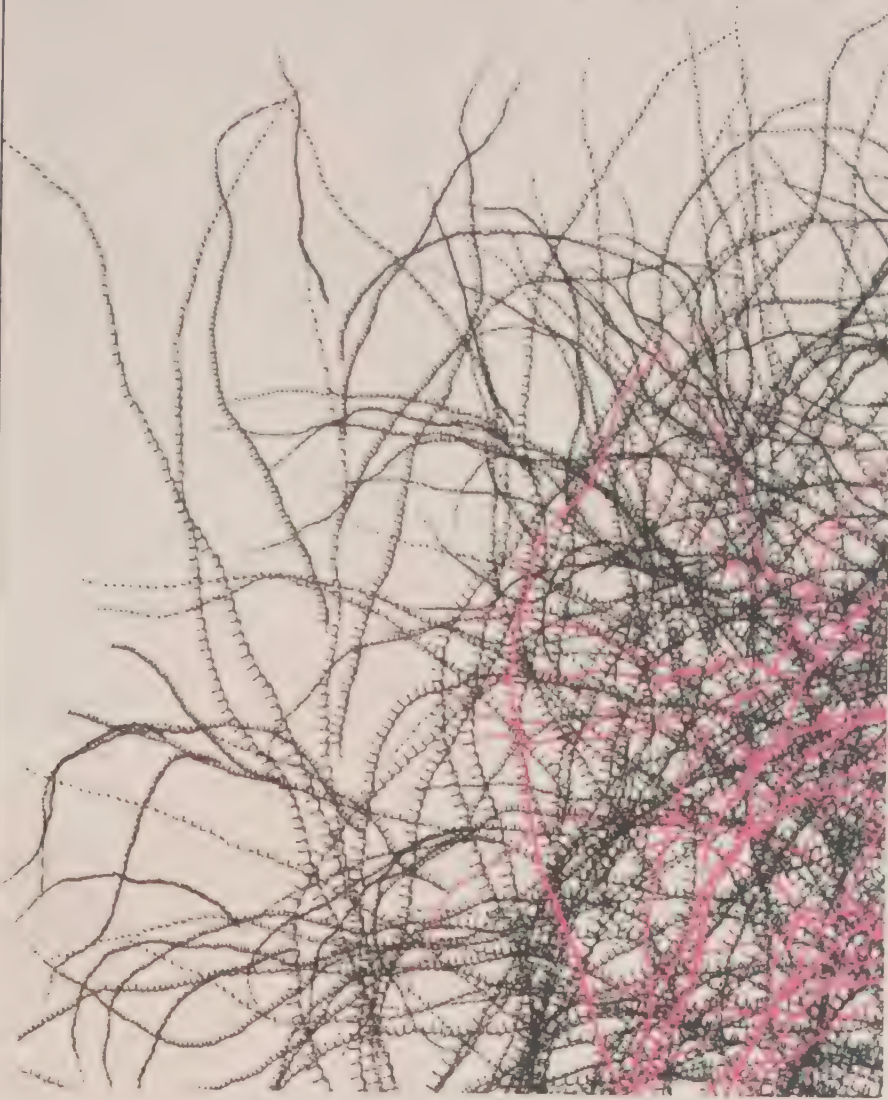
I suppose there is no way around it, and I must accept it as part of my routine much like paying for dry-cleaning. At the very least the phrase demonstrates some of the greatest limits of our common language. We don't really know how to communicate with each other, even about what we're doing on a given night.

Oh well. Ultimately, this is a terrible attitude. One day, I might write the same piece on my boss sticking his head through the door asking, "Can you come in on Saturday?" One day when I have a mortgage and kids, I will yearn for the days when some jackass wanted to travel down the yellow brick road.

Philip Castrovinci is a senior public health major from Sarasota, Fla.

Jackie Huang is a freshman biology major from Silicon Valley, Calif.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT




FAS

JHU FOREIGN AFFAIRS SYMPOSIUM

presents

JOHN

BOLTON



**Former US Ambassador
to the United Nations**

**February 27 | 6pm
Shriver Auditorium
Homewood**

All events are organized by FAS: The Foreign Affairs Symposium at Johns Hopkins University. All events are free and open to the public. www.jhu.edu/fas


Sponsored by Amtrak, Gertrude's and the Colonnade

THE B SECTION

The Johns Hopkins
News-Letter

Arts & Entertainment • Science & Technology • Your News-Letter • Cartoons • Calendar • Sports

FEBRUARY 21, 2008



In pursuit of an elusive sound

When a young John Cage was studying under his mentor Arnold Schoenberg, the elder composer announced to his pupil that the basis of all music was "a feeling for harmony." When Cage quipped back that he had no inner sense of harmony, Schoenberg warned him that to attempt to write music without harmony was akin to trying to walk through a wall. Cage famously responded, "In that case, I will devote my life to beating my head against that wall." The young student went on to do just that, becoming one of the 20th century's foremost avant garde composers, setting the standard for relentless improvisation, defiance of commonly accepted musical structures and a constant willingness to innovate and experiment. Since Cage's death in 1992, composers have risen to fill his shoes and continue the cutting-edge experimentation he began. In a recent showcase, the Peabody Conservatory Avant-Garde Ensemble took up Cage's mantle with a performance that demonstrated that avant-garde is far from dead — and our reporter was there to capture the full effect. Explore this musical phenomenon on page B3.

FINDING OIL IN ALL THE RIGHT SPACES

THE GIANT ORB THAT SITS IN THE SHADOW OF SATURN'S RING IS ITS LARGEST MOON TITAN. THE ONLY MOON WITH A DENSE ATMOSPHERE, TITAN HAS FASCINATED SCIENTISTS SINCE ITS DISCOVERY IN 1655. NOW NEW RESEARCH HAS RAISED HOPES THAT THIS ENIGMATIC ORB MIGHT CONTAIN EARTH'S MOST PRIZED RESOURCE: OIL. PAGE B6.

INSIDE B SECTION



YOUR N-L

• Explore the surprising advantages of letting your inner **nerd** run free — this is Hopkins after all, **B8**.

ARTS

• Get your head trip courtesy of the **Black Hollies**, a psychedelic rock band with award-winning music, **B2**.

SPORTS

• Our sports editor tackles the most controversial issue in sports: **steroids**, **B12**.

CALENDAR FEBRUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 27

FEB
21

Daniel Johnston to play at the Ottobar

According to locally acclaimed musician Daniel Johnston, "everything is art." Not an inaccurate statement for one with an impressive career in the said field — as a singer, songwriter and comic book-inspired artist.

Despite his many successes in the artistic realm, Johnston has led a life characterized by instability. During college, Johnston was diagnosed with bipolar disorder. He was arrested for spray-painting graffiti on the Statue of Liberty and thrown in jail for attacking a friend with a lead pipe, and he nearly crashed a private plane his father was piloting after grabbing its controls, convinced that his father was Satan.

He has entertained sporadic visits to mental hospitals and experienced several psychotic fits associated with religious obsession. It is undeniable that throughout Johnston's years, the only thing that remained a truly constant and evolving force has been the presence of art.

Johnston's emotional volatility is certainly present in of his music, which frequently varies in style. One critic mirrored this sentiment, claiming that Johnston's performances and recordings have a surprising range, from "spotty to brilliant."

What can be said is that Johnston has acquired an international cult following, perhaps by means of his crooning lyrics and tales of unrequited love, adventure, and various internal battles. Additionally, he has gained respect and major support from renowned artists



Festival regular and long-time performer Daniel Johnston is set for Baltimore's Ottobar with Jason Dove and the Magic.

such as Yo La Tengo, Sonic Youth, Eddie Vedder, Beck, Spiritualized, The Flaming Lips, David Bowie, Justin Furstenfeld, Bright Eyes, Matt Groening and Kurt Cobain (who even sported a Johnston T-shirt, a sign of utmost respect.)

Johnston has steadily released charmingly unrefined music to the public since he began to sell home-recorded cassette tapes in 1980. In 1985, Johnston appeared on an MTV special regarding the music scene in Austin, Texas, which aided him in receiving widespread popularity. Shortly thereafter, he began selling many more cassettes — and gaining devoted fans. Since 1981 Johnston has released over 27 albums and 42 compilations. In 2005, Jeff

Feuerzeig released a documentary about Johnston's manic, artistically inspired life, titled *The Devil and Daniel Johnston*. It quickly won the Director's Award at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival.

Johnston's lively songs tend towards staccato rhythms, clunky keyboards and low-key guitar backdrops. His lyrical perspective ranges from uncomplicated and child-like to sinister and brooding. His singing wanders off-key at times.

Yet there's something about Johnston's candid, unprocessed demeanor that appeals to even the most devoted hip-hop heads. In our generation's current musical tidal wave of processed, synthesized rhythms and glossy

lyrics, his music is endearingly raw and worth listening to, if only to admire his passion and quirky outlook on the minute and substantial moments of life.

While clumsily playing the piano on the song "Love Enchanted," Johnston asks his fans: "Would you follow me anywhere?/Are you entertained by deep despair?" It seems the majority of Johnston's fans would answer yes on both counts. Find out if you are among them this Sunday at the Ottobar as he performs with Jason Dove and the Magic Whip. Doors open at 8, the show starts at 9 and tickets are \$15.

— Erica Hellerstein

MOVIE OPENINGS

4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days

Opening at the Charles Theatre
Friday, Feb. 22

(410) 727-FILM or <http://www.thecharles.com> for showtimes



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.FERDYONFILMS.COM](http://WWW.FERDYONFILMS.COM)
Winner of the Palme d'Or at the 2007 Cannes Film Festival, this unforgettable thriller follows the journey of an attempt to secure an illegal abortion during the "Golden Age" of Romania.

Vantage Point

Opening at Landmark Harbor East Cinema
Friday, Feb. 22

12:05 p.m. | 2:30 p.m. | 4:40 p.m. | 7:05 p.m. | 9:35 p.m.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.VANTAGEPOINTMOVIE.COM](http://WWW.VANTAGEPOINTMOVIE.COM)
Forest Whitaker, Dennis Quaid, William Hurt and Matthew Fox star in this thriller about an assassination attempt on the president of the United States, detailed from five unique perspectives.

Campus events

Thursday, Feb. 21

4 p.m. Summer Study Abroad in South America

Are you interested in studying abroad this summer? Come to the Greenhouse to learn more about Hopkins study abroad programs in Argentina and Brazil. Hopkins's Program in Latin American Studies offers two six-week long programs.

Friday, Feb. 22

2 p.m. and 8 p.m. JHUT presents Samuel Beckett's *Krapp's Last Tape*

John Astin stars in Samuel Beckett's masterful *Krapp's Last Tape* at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday (Feb. 22 and 23), and at 2 p.m. on Sunday (Feb. 24) in the Merrick Barn. Performances benefit the Johns Hopkins University Theatre. Tickets are \$12 for students with valid ID.

Saturday, Feb. 23

7:30 p.m. Derrick Comedy.

Tickets for this sketch comedy event will be on sale in Levering during various times and at the door on Saturday night at Shriver Hall. Entrance is \$5. For more information visit <http://www.derrickcomedy.com>. Hopkins Throat Culture will be opening the show with a short performance.

8 p.m. A capella Night

Come see the Octopodes and Sirens perform this Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Arellano Theater with special guests Brandeis's Voicemale and University of Michigan's Dicks and Janes.

Local events

Thursday, Feb. 21

The 2007 Academy Award-Nominated Short Films

Thursday and Friday are your last two days to watch the shorts that are nominated for Oscars this year at the Harbor East Theater (645 President St.). Program A includes the following live action films: *At Night, Il Supplente, Le Mozart Des Pickpockets, Tanghi Argentini* and

The Tonto Woman. Program B includes the following animated films: *I Met the Walrus, Madame Tutli-Putli, Meme Les Pigeons Vont Au Paradis, My Love and Peter and the Wolf*.

Friday, Feb. 22

5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Fridays at the Walters

Head to the Walters at 600 N. Charles St. for a night with music by Dave Huber in the Museum Café at 6:30 p.m. and, at the same time, the Three African-American Artists mini-course in studio B.

6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Vodka Tasting and Lecture.

Spend an evening tasting top-shelf vodka while learning about its cultural significance in Eastern Europe. Taste Ukrainian delicacies and listen to the Baltimore-Odesa Sister City Committee at Baltimore's only Russian bar and restaurant, Red Square, located at 1023 N. Charles St.

8:30 p.m. The Black Hollies

Up-and-coming band the Black Hollies is set to perform at the Talking Head Club (203 Davis St.). Admission is \$7, and for a listen, visit their MySpace page at <http://www.myspace.com/theblackhollies>.

Saturday, Feb. 23

1 p.m. - 4 p.m. CakeLove Grand Opening

Despite the popularity and charisma of the Food Network host, Warren Brown is not the main attraction here: Attend the opening to get as many free samples of cake as possible. The new location is at 2500 Boston St. Admission is free.

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Real World Casting

The *Real World* is casting for Season 21, and will be holding an open casting call at College Park, Md. The location is Santa Fe Café (4410 Knox Road) and everyone ages 18-24 is welcome to join for an audition. Remember to bring a valid military ID for "skip-the-line" priority access.

Great Taste Culinary Expo

The culinary (or dining) enthusiast's dream: more than 150 exhibits of the best kitchens and kitchen gear, 200 different wines

tasting booths and interactive demonstrations with various celebrity chefs. This event benefits the 'Girls' Empowerment Mission program from the Living Classrooms Foundation. The event takes place at the Tremont Grand Conference Center (225 N. Charles St.); tickets are \$50 in advance, \$60 at the door. Visit <http://www.greattasteshow.com> for more information.

8 p.m. Rabbit in the Moon

Rabbit in the Moon, one of the most innovative electronic groups in music right now, debuts at Sonar. For a taste of their sound, visit <http://www.myspace.com/rabbitinthemoon>. Tickets can be purchased online in advance for \$20 and at the door for \$25.

Sunday, Feb. 24

9:45 a.m. Charles Theatre Discussion Cinema Sundays

This film series includes films, bagels, coffee and lively discussion. The Feb. 10 screening is *In Bruges*, starring Colin Farrell and Ralph Fiennes. A mini-membership (five films) to the weekly event is \$65, but for one film, entrance is \$15.

8 p.m. Daniel Johnston

Johnston's easygoing nature, not to mention his more than 30 albums, have earned him a devoted legion of fans. He performs with local favorite Jason Dove and the Magic Whip at the Ottobar (2549 N. Howard St). Visit <http://www.theottobar.com> for ticketing information.

Tuesday, Feb. 26

7 p.m. Provoked with Henry Rollins

Head to Sonar for this special seated spoken-word event, in which Henry Rollins heads the performance. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$35 at doors; visit <http://www.sonarbaltimore.com> for more information on the event.

8 p.m. Jill Scott

Experience "The Real Thing" as Jill Scott, the former Roots collaborator brings poetic tunes and her soulful sounds to Baltimore's Lyric Opera House (140 W. Mount Royal Ave.) Tickets have been on sale since December, so call (410) 527-SEAT as soon as possible for seats.

Wednesday, Feb. 27

8 p.m. RAQ @ the 8 X 10

Burlington, Vt.-based high performance rock and roll act RAQ includes Baltimore's 8x10 Club in its most recent tour, in support of the band's latest album, *RAQ Live Vol. 2*. RAQ has played to their hordes of fans at festivals such as Bonnaroo, The Echo Project, High Sierra Music Festival and Langerado. Visit <http://www.raqmusic.com> for a closer look of the band and their sound, and visit <http://www.the8x10.com> for ticketing information. The 8x10 Club is located at 10 E. Cross St.

Tiburzi's Café

Fine Italian dining doesn't have to cost a fortune, and it doesn't have to come with the parking debacle that is Little Italy. If you have a Valentine's Day debt to pay off, or just a special dinner date on a tight budget, Tiburzi's Italian Grill and Café (900 S. Kenwood Ave.) offers a full spaghetti dinner with salad for only \$9.99.

Exposure By Eileen Huang



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The Insider's Scoop: The Black Hollies

By SARAH SABSHON
Arts & Entertainment Editor

What do you get when you combine pop rock with a '60s psychedelic component? You get the Black Hollies' sophomore album, *Casting Shadows*.

Touring the country to promote their newest endeavor, the band, named after an old street-slang term for amphetamines, remembers their roots. "A couple of us were in an attic listening to old soul 45s and were inspired to embark a journey of our own," said lead singer Justin Angelo Morey. With a pretty poetic start to their career, the Black Hollies' first album which came out in 2006, *Crimson Reflections* was well received, described as '60s soul and pop structures with rave-up rock results."

But this newest album is definitely not a repeat of the first. *Casting Shadows* is definitely amped with those hallucinogenics that powered the music of the flower people. Morey said, "The first record was merely the debut ... *Casting Shadows* is a closer step in the right direction."

Citing influences as '60s soul, Jane Birken, Twiggy, Jean Shrimpton and Kate Moss, the Black Hollies keep themselves tied to the 1960s. Were the foursome born a few decades too late? No, rather they have the uncanny ability to make old music new. Morey interestingly describes the sound as, "freakbeat and psychedelia with northern soul overtones," which frankly doesn't seem to mean anything, but with a listen to their latest album, you almost begin to understand what he's saying.



COURTESY OF CHRIS PACIFICO

The Black Hollies' bandmembers Morey, Gonnelli, Bolasci and Wiley have completely embraced their '60s psychedelic image.

With lyrics ranging from poetic love letters to bubblegum repeats to bluesy ballads, *Casting Shadows* reveals a number of external influences. Although each track has similar components such as fuzzy vocals, tambourines and catchy guitar melodies, each song is very distinct. However, one might wonder at the organization of the album — there are a few songs that begin with Hebert Joseph Wiley V, the band's lead guitarist, playing sitar, which is a refreshing addition, but somehow they all ended up grouped together in the middle of the album. Some of the albums best songs include "Autumn Chateau," which uses the introductory notes of the sitar to become more rock-influenced

than the anticipated Asian-influences, "Hamilton Park Ballerina," a Beatles-like ballad, and "Running Through My Mind," a more bluesy, rockified-Muddy Waters piece.

The liner notes also provide insight into the sort of image the Black Hollies wish to portray. Not only does it contain the lyrics for all the songs, but also gives definitions for a number of words supposedly correlating to the band such as Acidhead, DMT (or dimethyltryptamine, a short-acting psychedelic that is injected or smoked), Flip and Psychedelic. Some interesting word choices are: "bum trip," a bad LSD experience, "to drop a cap," to swallow a capsule of LSD and "a guide," someone who babysits for the psychedelic user during a session. One can't be sure if the Black Hollies are just a little too into their '60s drug persona or are just plain promoting LSD use.

In order to record the perfect sound for an album, or, "a captured moment in time" as Morey describes each LP, the band regiments every sound and movement and rhythm. Practicing "until the gear runs out," the Black Hollies' live performances

have been described as seamless and fluid with almost not talking between songs — it is after all, in the style of Clapton collaborations like the Yardbirds and Cream: all about the music. Even their outfits, haircuts and general aura are reminiscent of the era they reincarnate on stage.

However, sometimes the Black Hollies seem to imitate just a little more than recreate, and there is the song or two you feel like you've heard before. Regardless, Morey and his bandmates, Wiley, rhythm guitarist Joe Gonnelli and drummer Scott Thomas Bolasci have managed for the most part to take music from one of the most creative and musically forward-thinking eras and redefined it for the 21st century.

Morey said, "I'd prefer to not describe our sound and allow people to have an open mind when forming their opinion about us. Everyone is entitled to their own interpretation. If anything, the greatest feeling I could receive is to know they walked away satisfied."

The Black Hollies will be performing on Friday, Feb. 22 at the Talking Head Club at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$7 at the door.

Peabody lets loose with the Avant-Garde Ensemble

By AMY MARCO
For The News-Letter

Over dinner, I revealed to a friend that I would be covering an "avant-garde performance at Peabody tonight. Sounds interesting, right?"

I was received by a couple blank stares, and a short pause. Then: "Oh, Amy. You do remember that we use that term for *ugly things* right?"

I recalled this pessimistic conversation later, as I fidgeted in the second row, waiting for the affair to begin. The concert hall was ironically traditional, a large white room with classical architecture dominated by an organ. In front of the organ sat a raised platform with two opposing pianos and an array of unconventional looking percussive instruments. I winced internally, wondering what I had gotten myself into by going to an experimental music concert.

As a short introduction (for those unfamiliar with this phrase), avant-garde in music typically is defined by a lack of

attention to a fundamental chord structure or rhythm. John Cage, after whom the Peabody Conservatory Avant-Garde Ensemble (CAGE) is named, was an American composer, best known for his piece "Four Minutes and 33 Seconds," in which no instrument is actually played in the conventional sense. It is four minutes and 33 seconds of "silence," making it a very controversial piece of contemporary music. As such, the avant-garde musical style embraces the unconventional and bizarre and pushes the limits of what can be even coined as musical expression.

The lights dimmed. First on the program was a piece entitled, "Music for a Summer Evening (Makrokosmos III)," by George Crumb. The performers filled the stage. There were two pianists and two men attending percussive instruments. The music began. Eerie, echoing plucking reverberated around the room and was joined by the occasional slide whistle, cymbal (played with a violin bow pulled across its edge),

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4

St. Mark's screens powerfully eerie live-music *Hunchback*

By EMILY BENJAMIN
For The News-Letter

Criterion has just released *Carnival of Souls*, famed for its eerie church-organ-centric plot (if not as a notorious rip-off of the classic "Hitch-Hiker" *Twilight Zone* episode) as part of its distinguished collection. The film is likely to induce near-hypnosis in the open-minded — remarkable considering its \$17,000 budget — and what was once limited to a slapdash four-for-one-dollar bin release can now be yours for \$35.99. It's not the first time I've been startled by a Criterion pick (see the curious release of *Robinson Crusoe on Mars*), but it's got me thinking: Are the powers that be starting to give organ-heavy scores credit where credit's long overdue?

This past Sunday, St. Mark's Lutheran Church on St. Paul and 20th Streets hosted a free screening of Wallace Worsley's 1923 *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, accompanied by a live organ score performed by James Harp, the church's own cantor. Far from a work of religious triumph, Victor Hugo's gruesome Romantic tale sets crimes of passion and their tragic ends in the setting of Paris's famed Gothic cathedral during its medieval heyday.

Worsley had the unforeseen fortune of directing the picture a decade before the Hays Motion

Picture Production Code of 1930 set a polished pall over L.A., so a tasteful amount of violence was kept intact with respect to Hugo's novel. Public torture. Adultery. Fending off riotous masses of thieves with molten lead. The interior sets, evoking a stylized Gothic architecture perhaps owing more to the sumptuous Hollywood Babylon era than to 15th century France, seemed an odd juxtaposition to the colorful mosaics of St. Mark's Byzantine interior.

Any surviving prints of the film are in poor shape, missing about 15 minutes of footage, and DVD transfers can't do much to fix that. To compound this, the viewing screen was a bit small and full rather than wide. Aside from these inescapable circumstances, watching Lon Chaney's Quasimodo scale down the Notre Dame facade to cascading organ arpeggios was positively breathtaking.

In the same way that Chaney's heartbreaking, leg-breaking (literally) performance has stood for decades as the real delight of the classic horror film, so too the live organ animated the production and drew a packed house to the event itself.

James Harp's performance struck a long-forgotten child-like, unadulterated joy in me at the very ringing of the bells during the opening credits. I was

hooked. Slowly the audience eased into rather candid expressions, laughing, gasping and even cheering throughout — no small feat since, like a BSO audience, the average age might well have been estimated in the '70s.

Harp played relentlessly for over two hours, leaving not one backwards glance unquestioned, not one taunting thief dispirited. Like any great

CONTINUED ON
PAGE B5

The Charles delivers opera to masses in new endeavor

By NATALIE BERKMAN
News-Letter Staff Writer

Throughout the years, opera has fallen out of favor amongst the younger generation. Not only are they in different language (Italian, French, German, etc.), but there are no spoken words, the plots are intricate and often confusing, and tickets are way too expensive for the student budget. To actually understand an opera requires an immense effort. With an inundation of movies and musicals with English dialogue based on original operas, it seems that real deal is out of date. While the language barrier appears to be an unreasonable obstacle and the stuffiness of the opera culture might be out of date, how can one honestly deny the extraordinary talent of the music, the libretto and those infamous opera singers? In an effort to bring back the glory of the opera, the Charles Theatre began to broadcast operas live, beginning with Verdi's "blockbuster opera *Aida*" in December.

"I support [the operas]," said Mike Anderson, manager of the Charles Theatre. "I think it's a great idea. The audience is pretty big — we're selling out almost every show."

While there are opera houses all over the world, including in Baltimore, none are considered as beautiful and famous as La Scala in Milan, Italy, often considered the greatest in the world. After a fire destroyed the original building, La Scala was reconstructed and rechristened in 1778 and has been performing classic works ever since. La Scala tickets are expensive (not including the price of getting to Italy, of course), but, through the efforts of the Charles Theatre, it's possible to see an actual La Scala production for just \$21.

The operas are live performances recorded at La Scala,

Teatro del Maggio Musicale and Teatro La Fenice, and brought to you in digital high definition and surround sound by Emerging Cinemas. They're "a combination" of a movie and an opera, Anderson said.

"It's a live performance that's filmed, but it's not just one camera. They zoom in on characters during important parts and there are also a lot of orchestra shots. They make an effort to make the orchestra a part of the performance."

Going to see an opera at the Charles won't be exactly the same as going to Italy, but it has its perks. For example, the operas are subtitled to facilitate understanding.

"A lot of people appreciate the subtitled version ... you get to actually understand what's going on," Anderson said. With subtitles, these operas become less foreign. It's possible to understand the plot and what the characters are saying. The audience can still enjoy and appreciate the music, but hopefully the subtitles will span the language gap.

So far, the La Scala series has appealed mostly to crowds of middle-aged people and senior citizens, but Anderson believes that if the right opera comes around, these broadcasts could appeal to younger crowds. Perhaps these broadcasts will reunite younger crowds with op-



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.BLO.ORG

La Traviata, one of the operas being screened at the Charles, contains violence, drama and intrigue.

era — they are certainly within a student's price range. The cheapest tickets for the Baltimore Opera Company are \$46, and they are all up in the balconies. Tickets to the La Scala broadcasts at the Charles are only \$21, and everyone has a front row seat.

Perhaps it is the price of opera tickets that have made this cultural institution so foreign to those in college — operas used to be common entertainment much like movies are today. It seems fitting, then, that operas are coming to the big screen and returning to the public eye, and \$21 seems a small price to pay to see an opera at the greatest opera house in the world. It truly is a little piece of history and culture that is still as equally powerful and moving as it once was. Go see an opera because

who knows? You may like it.

Series Schedule:

La Scala's *La Traviata*, by Giuseppe Verdi, directed by Liliana Cavani, conductor: Lorin Maazel. Feb. 20 and 24.

La Scala's *Maria Stuarda*, by Gaetano Donizetti; directed, designed and costumed by Pier Luigi Pizzi; conductor: Antonino Fogliani. March 26 and 30.

Teatro del Maggio's Musicale, Florence *La Forza del Destino*, by Giuseppe Verdi, directed by Nicolas Joel, conductor: Zubin Mehta. April 9 and 13.

La Scala's *Il Trittico*, by Giacomo Puccini, directed by Luca Ronconi, conductor: Riccardo Chailly. May 7 and 11.

Teatro La Fenice's *La Rondine*, directed by Graham Vick, conductor: Carlo Rizzi. June 25 and 29.



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.READINGEAGLE.COM
Lon Chaney stars as Quasimodo in Wallace Worsley's 1923 film.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

JHU music fans refuse to explore other genres

By DEMIAN KENDALL
Sports Editor

I spent the summer of my freshman year of college working as a delivery boy in a pizza shop in small-town Easton, Md. When business was slow, we had nothing better to do than sit around in the back of the store, talking meaningless nothings to pass the time. That was when I met Donovan, a 6-foot-5-inch giant with tattoos scrawled across his arms and gauge earrings the size of pepperonis.

On a particularly slow evening, I asked him what type of music he listened to. He responded, "Death metal. Nothing else." I was blown away. With all the different types of great music available today, I couldn't imagine someone restricting himself to one particular style for his entire life.

In the '60s, listeners didn't have a choice. You would turn on the radio, and it would be mostly rock and roll. Rock music united the youth of America, but that was soon to change. The '70s brought an array of different genres and styles: glam rock, prog rock, disco, funk, soul, reggae. The '80s saw the dawn of punk, metal, hip-hop, grunge and early alternative. Today, there are almost too many classifications to count. The expansion and diversity that has grown in modern music, however, is a mixed blessing. Many listeners, like my death metal co-worker, tend to side with one particular style of music, proclaim loyalty and ignore the rest, pledging a musical allegiance. Punk rockers rip their jeans and spike their hair.



MATT HANSEN/GRAPHICS EDITOR

Goth rockers paint their nails and don their spiked bracelets. The different directions that music has followed has created a wide spread of closed-mindedness, a segregation of listeners.

This is disturbing to me mostly because I don't understand it. I grew up listening to my parents' music, namely "classic rock," but as music has developed I've embraced it rather than sticking to my roots. To understand these divisions in the music world, I spoke with some die-hard fans of different genres on the Hopkins campus.

"Music I like would be alternative rock," sophomore James Gettinger said. "That's kind of a broad category. And, music I would dislike is ... almost everything else." When asked about different genres, he

responded, "I think that most people really ... I don't want to say don't know a lot about music but I just don't trust a lot of people's taste in music, especially people who like a lot of the genres I dislike."

I also spoke with Scott Yin, a senior and another metal head. "I like very extreme forms of music," Yin said. "I like a lot of metal, different types of heavy metal, like classic metal, thrash metal, speed metal, death metal, black metal. I also like the extreme forms of rap music like gangster rap."

Yin defended his seemingly exclusive tastes, saying, "Music is all based on music. Taste is all based on personal opinion. Something that is not rap or metal I already have a bias toward because I probably have a pretty good

idea what it's going to sound like and I know that I don't like that particular type of music."

Listeners also tend to associate different styles of music with different periods in their life which strengthens their attachment to a particular genre. Sophomore Stu Sweeney, a country fan, said that he listened to country music because he spent much of his life overseas and country music reminded him of his hometown in Texas. Noah Haddaway, another sophomore, listened to alternative rock, mostly through particular local radio stations, so he associates that style of music with his childhood.

Personal taste may drive listeners' choice in music, but the culture that surrounds different styles is also a major factor. Genres such as punk rock and rap foster the division of listeners by creating a cult-like group of followers who unify in their dress, their speech, and sometimes even their beliefs.

Sweeney said, "I went to school with a lot of people in Connecticut, and it was mostly kids from Greenwich and New York and they were extremely rich and extremely preppy, but they all listened to hardcore rap. They were all trying to put on this 'Oh yeah. I'm down with 50 Cent and Jay-Z' and all that s---, and I thought, 'you guys are a joke.' But they just wanted to seem cooler, so they listened to all that s---. I definitely think that people listen to it because they want to associate with the culture rather than its musical value, which in some cases it doesn't have."

"Certainly there are some people who do identify with, like, the rap culture, not because of the music, just because it's 'cool' to do," Yin said. "There's people who once you get so involved into it, you just can't help it."

Many listeners see music as an aspect of their identity. This is no new phenomenon. In the '60s, America saw the cult origins of the "Dead Heads," which would grow to a world-wide phenomenon over the years, and the hippies, whose taste in music was a part of how they saw themselves. There are many, however, who ignore the social culture of music and listen to it for what it is. Sophomore Greg Shultz claims to be a fan of all different types of music. He said,

CONTINUED ON PAGE B5

New Vibrations

Clipse

We Got It 4

Cheap, Vol. 3

The Clipse & RE-UP Gang!

Feb. 8, 2008



"Damn, forgot to do something. Oh yeah! It ain't over motherf---!" With these words, backed by epic choir vocals that sound as if they were ripped from the final minutes of a John Woo movie, the new Clipse mixtape, *We Got It For Cheap Vol. 3: In the Spirit of Competition (We Just Think We're Better)*, begins. The gunshots and vocal samples signal one thing: Clipse is back with a vengeance.

The third entry in the *We Got It For Cheap* series certainly has big shoes to fill. The first (*Introducing the Re-Up Gang*), released in 2004 and produced by Clinton Sparks, was a vehicle to showcase the renowned lyrical skills of the group, which hadn't released an album in years due to a long running dispute with their label, Jive Records. It also introduced the world to Ab-Liva and Sandman, two other members of Clipse's Re-Up Gang who have toiled in record label obscurity almost as long as Clipse themselves.

The second installment (*The Black Card Era*) followed soon after, an attempt to publicize their upcoming album *Hell Hath No Fury*. Both were filled with thinly veiled insults directed at upper level execs at Jive Records and more cocaine talk than Tony Montana in *Scarface*, all set to the most popular hip-hop beats of the year.

The new installment doesn't offer much departure from the first two. Although produced by renowned mixtape artist DJ Drama, it is still set to familiar beats such as the Jay-Z song "Roc Boys" or Kanye West's "Good Morning." *Part of the pleasure of the mixtape is hearing amazing beats that were ruined by the commercial artists who bought them revitalized by the word-*

play of the group. Most of the recycled beats are a significant improvement on the original.

The original songs on the mixtape do not disappoint either. "20K Money Making Brothers on the Corner" is an epic ode to drug culture, and one cannot help but marvel at how the group can make even the sound of a steel drum ominous.

The subject matter of the group hasn't changed much either. Although a new million dollar contract with Elektra has relieved the group of their label frustrations, most of their anger is now directed towards Louisiana rapper Li'T Wayne who has been carrying on a feud with the group in interviews for over a year.

While the slander is fierce, the real star of the show is the drug talk, and the entire Re-Up Gang seems to have an infinite amount of cocaine smiles at their disposal, spitting fierce lines like "I push powder like Maybelline/Sell tons like Medeillin" with the greatest of ease.

In the end, the album is an enjoyable exhibition of the same things the brothers have always done. At this point Clipse are the go-to rappers for gangster wordplay, and with metaphors like "My gun speaks Spanish/It goes papi, papi" there are not a lot of groups that can put up better bars than Pusha T and Malice. Their subject matter transcends stereotypes, addressing everything from Socrates to season two of *The Wire*. Nobody does coke rap better, but with 18 years in the music business (and away from the street) one kind of whishes they had something more to talk about.

— Aidan Renaghan

Peabody's CAGE redefines music

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B3
and vocal exclamation. Oddly enough, I found myself enjoying this. Sure, the piece severely lacked any distinct rhythmic unification. But — it was exciting. It was irreverent. It was ... beautiful. As the director of CAGE, Ann Teresa Kang, described it, the experience was, "an unexpectedly emotional medium."

"For a Dream's Sake," was the second piece of the evening. It featured a small ensemble of stringed instruments and one singer. The composer of the second piece, Amy Beth Kirsten, is currently a graduate student at the Peabody Conservatory. In her program notes, she discusses her inspiration for the music, the poem of the same title by the 19th century poet Christina Rossetti. The music is about a young woman who falls into a dream. She is at first seduced by the beauty of her escapism, but becomes increasingly horrified as she falls into a nightmare and is "incapable of getting the words out."

This effect is achieved as the singer at first sings the full words of the poem, "Laura stretched her gleaming neck/Like a rush-embedded swan/Like a lily from the beck/Like a moonlit poplar branch..." and so forth. As the music develops, the singer sings only the vowels, and the instruments form the percussion of the consonants. Then the roles reverse, and the singer articulated the consonants, and the strings play the swells of the vowels. In this way, the role of Laura is initially assumed by the singer, but is then passed around the entire ensemble.

Kirsten herself is extremely well received in the musical community. She has been described by the American Composers Orchestra as having, "original, unusual textures" and "very colorful, detailed orchestration." Her style "is a synthesis of lyricism and experimentation and often features some element of theatre."

I found this to be an extremely true description, barely able to tear my eyes away from Bonnie Lander, the vocalist, who's classically operatic voice perfectly captured the true purpose of the work: the raw panic of not knowing what is real or true, and the terror of not knowing how to express one's self in such a bewildering world.

The final piece was written by celebrated composer Franghiz Ali-Zadeh and is called "Mugam Sayagi." Traditional Islamic culture and religion inspired Ali-Zadeh. She wanted to show the strong, yet subtle passion of men for women that exists in her culture, but that tends to be lost to the



CONOR KEVIN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Amy Beth Kirsten composed the night's second piece, inspired by a Rossetti poem.

eyes of Western society. By using experimental stylistic methods combined with traditional instruments and melody patterns, convention meets modernity in this lovely arrangement.

Musicians with no shoes, who played at first from another room via a speaker, gradually entered or exited the stage. The cello served as the composer's voice, but was played by a man. The cello part revolved around a single repeating

phrase, and mingled with a viola and two violins. The higher registers added a swirling, passion to the undulating cello part. This finale was breathtaking, and I found myself actually emotionally drained by the final bow-sweep.

Exiting the hall, I was somewhat dazed. I had ... actually really enjoyed myself. I called my friend who I had spoken to earlier. I told her, "I guess we'll have to find a new word for ugly."

This Saturday, MTV is having an open casting call for the upcoming *Real World* season. The *News-Letter* had the chance to get the inside scoop on crew selection from the casting director himself, Damon Furberg.

News-Letter: What do you look for in a *Real World* cast member?

Damon Furberg: In a general sense, we always look for charismatic people with interesting life stories and big personalities.

N-L: Do you specifically choose people with contrasting personalities? Ideologies?

DF: To an extent, yes. We try to put seven people in the house who are very different from one another. The ideal cast has a diversity of races, religions, politics, socioeconomic backgrounds, personality types and regional origins.

However, we don't have a laundry list of "types" of people we're looking for and we don't cast someone specifically because we think they're going to have a

particular conflict with someone else on the cast. Frankly, we couldn't do that if we wanted to — these are real human beings, and how they will react to one another is a totally unknown quantity. It's one of things that makes the show exciting to watch on — after all these years it's still basically just a big, crazy social

experiment.

N-L: How has casting changed since the show's inception?

DF: It's gotten more difficult! After 20 seasons, it's tough to find new types of people with stories that haven't yet been told on the show. The biggest change I notice is that applicants in general have become more image-conscious and media savvy. It can be a real challenge to find people who are willing to be totally honest and genuine in front of the camera.

N-L: Do you think the show is still as relevant and cutting edge

as it was in 1992?

DF: *Real World* essentially invented the reality television genre, and that's a tough act to follow. Despite the fact that the show has changed very little in concept since its inception, *The Real World* remains relevant because each new cast brings with it all of the issues 18-24 year olds are currently dealing with.

N-L: How can someone increase their chances of being chosen for *The Real World*?

DF: Just be yourself, cliché as that might sound. There's no "formula" for getting cast, contrary to what people may think.

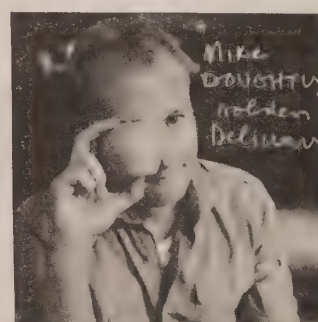
N-L: How does being from a "brainy" school like Hopkins affect someone's chances of being selected?

DF: We always love to see smart people apply for the show, so as far as we're concerned, being from a brainy school is a bonus.

—John Kernan



Mike Doughty
Golden Delicious
Ato Records
Feb. 19, 2008



In the first part of his career, Mike Doughty led the band Soul Coughing, known perhaps best for Doughty's stream-of-consciousness poetry and the experimental style of music Doughty himself described as "deep slacker jazz," a moniker that means as little to me as it does to you.

Since Soul Coughing split in 1998, Doughty has gone solo. In 2005, he released *Haughty Melodic*, an album that featured layers and layers of instruments and sounds, and chronicled much of Doughty's recovery from addiction. The heavy production was well received by many critics — and hated by others.

Now, on *Golden Delicious*, Doughty has moved toward a sound anyone can get into — a much more standard four-piece band sound with clear, catchy vocals. The first single, "27 Jennifers," is already playing on your finer FM stations.

This is not to say Doughty has sold out nor abandoned his artistic integrity. Quite the opposite. Take, for example, one of the major hooks in the track "I Just Want the Girl in the Blue Dress to Keep on Dancing." Doughty's awareness of sibilance is impressive: "I assess the essence of the mess. The perfect hourglass of my loneliness, yes." In print, it might seem a bit forced, but in the song, the sibilance only adds to it, and makes the song flow.

Or on "Fort Hood," the first track, which opens the album with an "anti-war but pro-troops" tune. Doughty has acknowledged how cliché this may seem, but he cites his army brat background as justification. Because of his experiences with troops and in Army hospitals, this song simply happened, and he could not choose to soften or

change its sentiments without denying its originality and honesty. Doughty borrows the famous "Let the sun shine in" line from *Hair* (for obvious hippie reasons), an interesting method that somehow works for him.

Another gem comes on "More Bacon than the Pan Can Handle," on which Doughty is joined by a lilting, almost laughing female accompaniment who sings the title lyrics. The song is light, catchy, and fun — a great nod-along tune.

While Doughty excels on this album at the joyful and relaxed, it is not without its more serious tracks. "I Got The Drop On You" features a bluesy-folksy guitar and lyrics with phrases like "rattling the chains." It's not my favorite song on the album, but it certainly gets an emotion across.

"Wednesday (Contra La Puer-ta)" features more of Doughty's impressive poetry, but he does need to work on his Spanish accent a bit.

"Nectarine" is catchy and groovy in a don't-think-about-it-too-much kind of way. The string of "Na na nas," while not particularly expressive or deeply meaningful, add a bit of relaxed fun to the song.

Golden Delicious is an excellent, well-rounded album. It combines pop catchiness with poetry, groovy tunes with innovation. It's the sort of thing that gets you to dance around your room when no one's looking.

Doughty will be at the 9:30 Club on April 5. You'll see at least one *News-Letter* reviewer there.

— John Kernan

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Be Kind Rewind is better left at video store

By LAUREN HILL
News-Letter Staff Writer

Every year after the Oscar rush is over I breathe a sigh of relief. Sure, I like a disturbing drama or a heartwarming character-based comedy as much as anyone, but all serious films are just that — serious. When spring rolls around I'm looking for the cinematic equivalent of a deep-fried Twinkie, a movie whose DVD box will never be tainted with the distracting clutter of "Three Oscar Nominations" in bold letters or the Cannes laurels, a film which, dare to dream, may even receive the honor of a Razzie. Michel Gondry's *Be Kind Rewind* looked like it would fit the bill. With the promise of the antics of the illustrious Jack Black and a parody of *Back to the Future*, I was ready to be sold.

The premise was a great one — take two wacky best friends Jerry (Black) and Mike (Mos Def), put them in a ramshackle video rental place in Jersey with only VHS in stock, erase all the tapes, throw in Danny Glover for good measure, push the chaos button, then sit back, relax and watch the quirky and slightly insane duo remake comedy and action classics.

The problem, which became obvious within the first 10 minutes, is that you can't just skip right to the movie parodies, but you have to make at least an attempt to set it up in some way. So here's the set up: after an ill-conceived plan to destroy a power plant he believes is controlling his mind, Jack Black becomes radioactive, touches all of the tapes in the store, and in doing so erases all of them. In order to save their business, Mike and Jerry remake many of the films in the store using some friends and a handheld video camera. Confusing and bizarre, yes, but this is not the problem. Give me a non-

sequitur plot any day, and I'm intrigued. Tell me it's painfully stupid, and I'm buying my tickets. But for God's sake, make it funny. This just wasn't funny.

It would be wrong to say that the film was devoid of humor. Jack Black managed to work some laugh-out-loud moments, as he always seems to do. The remakes of the films were actually really entertaining, particularly the initial *Ghostbusters* sequence, which was mostly taped in the local library and featured a mechanic friend in drag and a cat "ghost." Another funny "remake" was the take on *Driving Miss Daisy* where white becomes black and male becomes female with some very "emotional" outcomes. I hadn't seen a lot of the movies they redid and I was still able to enjoy it; I just wish that this aspect of the film took up more than a cumulative 20 minutes.

BE KIND, REWIND

Starring: Jack Black, Mos Def
Director: Michel Gondry
Run Time: 1 hr 41 min
Rating: PG-13
Playing At: Loews White Marsh, Harbor East

Perhaps the reason why the core comedy of the movie was cut so short was that the Gondry had some sort of message to deliver. The other facet of the otherwise humorous story is the conflict between The Man (ah, remember Jack Black's vendetta against The Man in *School of Rock?*), represented by West Coast Video, a Blockbuster-like conglomerate, a copyright protection agent (Sigourney Weaver) and anyone else who buys or rents DVDs. Of course, Jerry and Mike are the good-hearted protagonists who value the community and live modestly by refusing to move past the analog era. I won't say who wins, but I will say that the climax was so sickeningly heartwarming that I felt as if I'd just been forced to hug Dick Cheney. Ew.

Ironically, this film would likely be better if it were remade in 20 minutes and put on YouTube. The movie parodies actually had the feeling of a great video you



COURTESY OF NEW LINE CINEMA
Black and Diaz recreate a scene from *Robocop* in the new comedy *Be Kind Rewind*.

might find on online, and maybe Gondry cooked up the idea for *Be Kind Rewind* in the spirit of the YouTube phenomenon. Whatever his intentions, the lesson to be learned here is that what might

be a well above par five-minute procrastination viewing is pretty hard to stretch out over the length of a feature film. Now excuse me while I go seek some comic relief in *Meet the Spartans*.

Hopkins students reluctant to transcend musical boundaries

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B4

"I think what attracts me to the music is the actual music itself. With rock and jazz and that kind of stuff, and even to a point with rap, the music is about the music and the actual writing of the music. When I listen to pop I feel like it's more about the culture."

"I wouldn't say that music defines who I am, it's just what I listen to," Haddaway said.

One somewhat unifying characteristic of the divided modern generation of listeners is a reversion back to rock and roll's golden age, the music coined "classic rock" of the '60s and '70s. More and more teenagers across the country are starting to listen to the music of that

generation. Classic band logos are seen on clothing and posters. Movies such as *Across the Universe* and *Walk the Line* are achieving huge commercial success. Some bands, such as Led Zeppelin and the Who, are even reuniting on tours and playing sold-out concerts. But is this music considered relevant today, or is it merely a page in the history books?

"I think [classic rock] is definitely relevant today," Gettinger said. "Especially because most of the bands from the '60s and '70s are what contemporary bands draw their influences from. Performances like Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin, the Rolling Stones, the Beatles: If you ask most of the really talented people today what

types of music they like, that's what they say," he said.

"The good thing about music is that it feeds off the past and a lot of artists are influenced by artists that they listened to growing up," Yin said.

However, in the divided world of music, there will always be differing opinions. Haddaway said, concerning classic rock, "I feel that the Beatles are really the only important thing from then. Lennon's message and Paul McCartney's message certainly live on today. As for everything else, who cares?"

Are these music allegiances a bad thing? I don't think so, except when there is a refusal to experiment and experience something new. I admit that I too am guilty

ing the celebration in turn to a menacing sideshow.

But all was well, for a little bit at least, when the Angelus rang in and there was Lon Chaney, swinging wildly as he pulled the ropes. I think I cried then, too.

The event was held as part of the St. Cecilia Society's winter concert series, which has so far also invited Eastern Orthodox choirs and guest organists to perform at the church. This Palm Sunday, Cecil B. DeMille's 1923 version of *The Ten Commandments* will be screened and again accompanied by Harp.

As with *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, the religious setting of DeMille's first version of *The Ten Commandments* will captivate anyone who's ever watched a movie, spiritual or not. There's even a super-early Technicolor reel! So, if you don't have any religious plans for Palm Sunday, go see it.

The St. Cecilia Society will be presenting the silent *The Ten Commandments* at St. Mark's Church on March 17.

Save Up To \$50,000 Now.*

VILLAGE LOFTS

New Condominiums in the Heart of Charles Village



LIVE LARGE. SAVE LARGE.

- Furnished Model Now Open
- Immediate Move-Ins Available
- Great Neighborhood Amenities
- Close to Johns Hopkins and Union Memorial

village-lofts.com

smart living in the heart of charles village

3201 st. paul street | baltimore maryland | 410.243.0324

*For a limited time only on select units. Must use preferred lender.



NHBR # 4591
SALES BY MCWILLIAMS BALLARD

STRUEVER BROS. ECCLES & ROUSE
Transforming America's Cities

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Hopkins Hospital selected to use artificial hearts

By **TIFFANY NG**
News-Letter Staff Writer

Johns Hopkins Hospital has just been chosen as one of four hospitals in the nation to implant the new AbioCor, the first fully self-contained artificial heart.

Artificial hearts that are currently available have many shortcomings, the biggest of which is the high risk of infection after surgery. Because these hearts rely on an external power source, there are electrical cables running from the inside to the outside of the body, penetrating the skin.

The AbioCor implantable replacement heart is the first of its kind to employ transcutaneous transmission of energy: One pad under the skin receives the electrical current and a pad outside of the body delivers the energy. After the original surgical scar has healed, there are no permanent breaks in the skin.

John Conte, the associate director of cardiac surgery and the director of the Ventricular Assist Device Program at Hopkins Hospital, explained that the AbioCor "provides totally implantable support, so that the risk of infection goes away after [the patient] has recovered from the operation."

An additional benefit of the AbioCor is its greater overall durability, potentially lasting 18 months or longer. A newer model to be released later this year is designed to last up to five years.

Recent improvements to the AbioCor allow it to act as long-term support for patients with cardiomyopathies, a general weakening of the heart muscle, who are normally poor candidates for currently available devices. Total artificial hearts also eliminate any existing problems of the patient's original heart, such as arrhythmia, blood clots or leaking valves.

However, the full heart replacement is not without drawbacks. "By removing the entire heart, there is no backup if the device fails," said Ashish Shah, assistant professor of surgery and director of the Lung Transplant Program.

"Some patients have recovery of their native heart after months and years of conventional mechanical circulatory support and can have their devices removed. The total artificial heart eliminates this option."



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.ABIOMED.COM](http://www.abiomed.com)
The AbioCor artificial heart can replicate the functions of the human heart for patients with severe, untreatable cardiac disease.

Nevertheless, compared with traditional heart transplants, whereby the patient is put on a transplant list and is matched with a donor, a process that could potentially last months or even years, the AbioCor has a very promising future. "Once we reach a point where we have transcutaneous transmission of energy worked out, we won't be doing heart transplants for but a small percentage of the patients," Conte said.

"The biggest problem with a heart transplant is that you're trading one fatal disease for another," Conte said. Most transplant patients deal with organ rejection, suppression, infection and transplant coronary artery disease. Additionally, transplant patients have a 10-year survival rate of 50 percent, and most pay thousands of dollars each month for immunosuppressant medications. The AbioCor has the potential to eliminate these risks and costs.

Conte, who was instrumental in obtaining the AbioCor for the

Hopkins program, sees Hopkins playing a large role in advancing the progress of artificial circulatory devices. "We are very active in the field of mechanical circulatory support, and we're one of the larger programs in the country, so we felt that is a great opportunity," he said.

Shah echoed these sentiments: "We hope that our experiences with the device will contribute the greater understanding of total artificial hearts in clinical practice and advance the field scientifically and clinically."

Artificial hearts first made headlines in 1982, when the first total artificial heart, the Jarvik-7, was successfully implanted. In 2001, the first AbioCor was implanted in a 58-year-old man named Robert Tools. Since then, only a handful of patients have received the AbioCor artificial hearts as surgeons and hospitals have learned more about the device.

The device was approved by the FDA in September 2006 under

a special Humanitarian Device Exemption. This type of approval signifies that there are no alternative devices currently available to patients requiring this technology, and that the AbioCor is safe and likely to benefit the health of the patient.

Experts urge global effort to combat growing tobacco use

By **JOCELYN WAGMAN**
For The News-Letter

Tobacco kills one person every six seconds and could kill one billion people in the 21st century, according to a new World Health Organization (WHO) report based in part on research by experts at the Bloomberg School of Public Health.

The new report, entitled "Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic," was released Feb. 7. It describes the tobacco epidemic as a worldwide killer that is completely preventable.

The report outlines a series of six steps to control tobacco use around the world. The comprehensive policy is called MPOWER, which WHO will help member countries enact. WHO believes its policy proposal could lead to a drastic reduction in tobacco deaths. MPOWER stands for Monitor, Protect, Offer, Warn, Enforce and Raise.

The steps envisioned by WHO include: collecting data on the use of tobacco and efforts to prevent its use in different countries, helping people avoid secondhand tobacco smoke, giving people help when they want to quit, educating people around the world about the harmful effects of tobacco products, using politics to limit the reach of tobacco and increasing taxes on tobacco.

These steps are part of WHO's approach to make governments more active contributors in the global fight against tobacco use.

This approach is critical because the number of tobacco users in developing countries is rising rapidly, even as it is slowly declining in many developed countries. The governments of these countries are in a position to create life-saving policies that will reach their citizens, the report indicates.

The data collected for the report show that current tobacco prevention efforts are woefully underfunded: For every \$5,000 collected from tobacco taxes, only \$1 is invested in tobacco prevention policies or other efforts to control tobacco use. Yet, even for poor countries, controlling tobacco can be cheap. The report found that if tobacco taxes were raised by 70 percent, deaths resulting from tobacco use would decrease by 25 percent.

Without government intervention, the report says, the citizens of these countries will pay the highest price in health care costs and the human death toll. Furthermore, the health effects of the tobacco epidemic are only accelerating because of the long time lapse between the initiation of tobacco use and the onset of disease — people getting sick today may have started smoking a decade ago or more.

With this initial report and others to follow, WHO hopes to focus global efforts on curbing tobacco's rapid growth. The Feb. 7 report makes it clear that without a global effort to combat tobacco use, the world will pay a tragic price.

Saturn's largest moon has abundant oil

By **JEROME SIMONS**
News-Letter Staff Writer

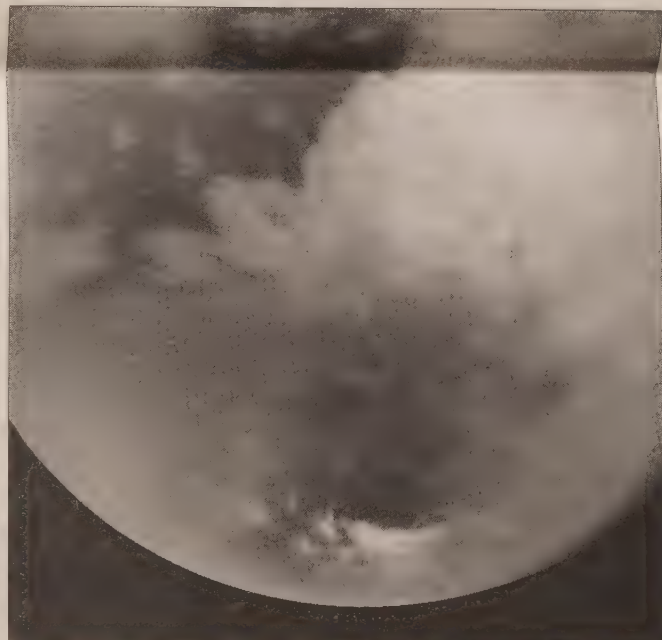
Oil is probably the most important — and controversial — form of energy used on our planet. Its uneven distribution in different countries and the ever-shrinking stores of this vital resource do not help matters for our fossil-fuel-dependent society.

According to an article in the January issue of the *Geophysical Research Letters*, a research team led by Ralph Lorenz from the Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, Md., has discovered significant amounts of oil-like substances on Saturn's largest moon, Titan.

The Hopkins scientists used the radar instruments on NASA's Cassini spacecraft, which is a cooperative mission by NASA, the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Italian Space Agency (ASI). Cassini has been in orbit around Saturn and its moons since 2004, sending back tremendous amounts of valuable data to Earth-bound scientists.

A large part of the mission involves studies of Titan. Several hundred lakes and seas have been observed on the surface. Unlike on Earth, however, the seas are not full of water — they contain hydrocarbons, the same organic compounds that make up oil and natural gas.

A dozen of the seas are so big that they each exceed Earth's known oil and coal reserves. All of the natural gas reserves on Earth would be enough to satisfy the United States' hunger for energy for about 300 years. (Of course, oil supplies will run out much sooner since other coun-



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.NASA.GOV](http://www.nasa.gov)
This Cassini image from October 2004 shows detailed features on Titan's surface.

tries also need oil and the demand continues to increase.)

By comparison, just one of these lakes on Titan carries the same amount of energy-providing organic substances, and there are quite a few lakes scattered across Titan's surface. The researchers caution that these are just estimates, since they have only mapped about 20 percent of the surface.

The conditions on Titan are rather harsh compared to our Earth. An average temperature of negative 290 degrees Fahrenheit makes the environment inhospitable to life. In addition, the lakes are filled with either methane or ethane rather than water.

The regions between the lakes and seas cover 20 percent of the surface and carry molecules called "tholins." All life known at this point is based on hydrocarbons, which are long carbon chains surrounded by hydrogen atoms. They played the most important role in the chemical processes before life on Earth.

Tholins are rudimentary



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.NASA.GOV](http://www.nasa.gov)
An artist's image of the Cassini satellite approaching Saturn.

Cellular pathway might aid drug delivery

By **SAM OHMER**
News-Letter Staff Writer

Despite scientists' best efforts in the area of drug discovery, the fact remains that the human body is designed to resist the invasion of foreign particles, whether they be bacteria, viruses or life-saving medications.

This defensiveness is usually a good thing — but sometimes it can stand in the way of effective medical treatment.

When someone is infected with something (or gets an organ transplant) the immune system leaps into action. The offending substances are marked with proteins to tell the entire body that these things are foreign.

Other cells come along to digest and degrade bacteria and viruses. Chemicals are released into the bloodstream to decrease the effectiveness of the invaders' attack.

When patients are prescribed drugs, they encounter the same problems but on a much smaller scale. Something similar to the immune response happens in individual cells when they ingest foreign chemicals. Cells will isolate the invading chemicals in separate compartments and will eventually degrade them using a special set of enzymes.

There is therefore a need to develop methods of drug delivery that can circumvent cells' self-protective responses.

One method that shows early promise is currently being studied by a team of scientists led by Justin Hanes from the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering in the Whiting School of Engineering at Hopkins.

Specifically, the team has been examining the way cells handle foreign substances by studying the movements of particles that have been artificially injected into the cells.

They have discovered that tiny particles, about one-fiftieth the size of the typical germ

(that's just about 24 nanometers, or about 24 billionths of a meter!), can actually make their way into cells without being destroyed.

Normally, when a cell senses a foreign object nearby, it engulfs the object in a process called endocytosis ("endo" meaning into, "cyto" meaning cell). In endocytosis, the cell membrane surrounds a nearby object, creating a security bubble for transportation within the cell called a vesicle.

Often, this engulfed object is then devoured by enzymes in the cell whose purpose is to destroy alien objects that might harm the cell.

However, Hanes's team has tracked these tiny particles as they move through cells using advanced microscopy techniques and has found that when the foreign particles were small enough, they survived the cell's endocy-

totic defense mechanism.

The team proposes that these particles have actually entered into the cells via distinct pathways that are independent of the usual enzymatic pathways that lead to the destruction of larger foreign bodies.

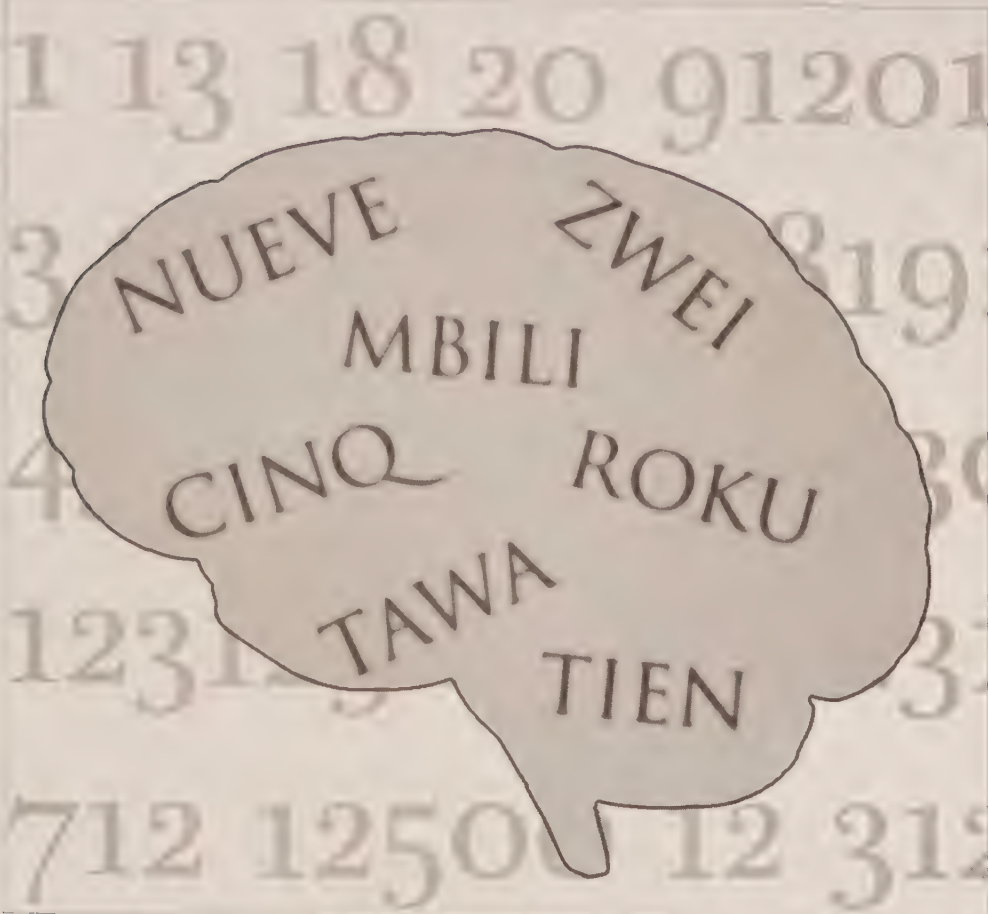
Once the particles are taken into the cell inside of vesicles, they are transported to the area around the cell nucleus, where they stay for a longer period of time as compared with the other types of transportation vessels. The scientists were able to observe the vesicles traveling along specific pathways toward the nucleus and then congregating there, rather than being sent to be degraded.

One of the proposed reasons for the discrepancies between the two types of transportation pathways is that the vesicles used by smaller particles actually experience increased attractions to a different type of intracellular transport network. These networks act as highways within the cell, directing different types of vesicles and other particles to different areas.

The vesicles containing smaller particles appear to be more tightly bound to these transport proteins, resulting in less diffusion and higher vesicle concentrations in certain cellular areas like the nucleus.

The discovery of this special pathway is a promising finding for pharmaceutical researchers looking for ways to increase the efficacy of their drug. This pathway might allow them to increase the speed and targeting of the delivery, even to specific areas within cells, while avoiding the body's self-defeating defenses.

When the foreign particles were small enough, they survived the cell's endocytotic defense mechanism.



MATT HANSEN/GRAPHICS EDITOR

Injury destroys number comprehension

Man loses ability to understand spoken words referring to numbers after suffering a stroke

By DEANNA CHIECO
For The News-Letter

A new case report of a brain-damaged patient sheds light on the way our brains process specific types of information. Brenda Rapp of the Cognitive Science Department at Hopkins and colleagues from Spain recently published a case report of a person who could not understand number words when spoken to him. The work appears in the journal *Neuropsychologia*.

The patient, known by the initials MMV, suffered a stroke that led to brain damage in the temporal and parietal lobes. The parietal lobe is involved in sensory processing, while the temporal lobe is involved in auditory processing and memory. His lesion, or injury, included the intra-parietal sulcus, which is a region used in understanding and processing number meanings.

Aphasia is a broad category of language comprehension and production deficits. These deficits are generally due to brain injury and do not depend on the intelligence of the person. MMV's aphasia involved only the comprehension of number words

(such as "nine").

After his stroke, language testing revealed that MMV was able to speak two languages with normal fluency. However, there was a noticed deficit in the ability to recognize the meanings of number words when spoken to him. For example, he was not able to understand the meaning behind even a single-digit number when heard, yet he could understand the number without difficulty when read.

Number words are considered part of a small category, comparable to the vocabulary set of color words. Also, numbers are included in the "automatic speech" category because they are frequently used in language.

MMV was perfectly able to recognize other words that were part of small categories and other automatic speech categories. This shows that MMV's deficit dealt specifically with numbers and not with other common word categories.

In order to completely outline this deficit, MMV's ability to understand non-number words was thoroughly tested. Picture-matching tests with visual and auditory word cues were used

to examine MMV's ability to comprehend words. Interestingly, the deficits were the same in both of the languages that MMV speaks.

To determine if MMV's deficit involved impairment in the understanding of numbers or quantification in general, he was tested on the meanings of words like "few" or "many." However, tests revealed that he was capable of matching these types of words with corresponding pictures, indicating that he was fully able to work with number-related ideas.

This type of case study demonstrates how language information is organized within the cortex. Previous case studies have revealed how similar semantic information is categorized in the same region of the brain. For example, a person might not be able to understand words associated with animals if there was damage to the "animal" region of the brain.

Some studies reveal that certain types of grammatical constructions can be lost with specific brain lesions, no matter if these are received as visual or auditory stimuli.

This case study is interesting because it indicates that even with perfectly normal hearing and vision, a very specific category of information can fail in the brain, and the failure is further dependent on the way in which the information was received.

This case study leads to further information regarding the way the brain categorizes information. Often the best way to study how the brain works is to study what happens when it does not work.

Case studies of lesion patients help connect the location of the brain damage with clinical disabilities such as aphasia. Research into language disorders helps to pinpoint how the healthy brain processes language.

Wireless Logitech mouse a great buy

By DENNIS KO
News-Letter Staff Writer

The MX Revolution has been Logitech's flagship mouse for the past year. It's a wireless mouse with laser tracking as well as the standard forward and back buttons.

These features are efficient and come in an attractive and comfortable package. But what sets the MX revolution apart from other mice are two key features: the MicroGear Scroll Wheel and an innovative second scroll wheel on the side.

The mouse is curved more than most standard mice, which I find to be good since my hand can actually rest completely on the mouse and not on my desk. The cutout for your thumb really does fit the thumb perfectly, although I think the forward and back buttons are a little too far back along the cutout.

Lefties beware though: This is not a mouse for you. This mouse is clearly designed for right-handers only.

Aside from that small problem, I think the comfort of this mouse is among the best, and I could use it for hours without feeling pain or discomfort.

The battery life on this wireless mouse is decent, contrary to some reports out there. I have been able to consistently get about four to five days' use between charges.

The mouse has a built-in lithium-ion battery and charges through its own proprietary charger, which can be annoying when your mouse runs out of juice and you can't just pop in some new AAAs to keep going.

Fortunately the mouse will tell you when it's running low on battery power. As long as you charge your MX Revolution every other day, I don't see you running out of battery power during use.

Plenty of mouse models have adopted the laser tracker instead of the older tracking ball, and for good reason: The laser is far more accurate, less likely to break down or fall out, and works even on rough surfaces.

What about the MicroGear Scroll Wheel? This is by far the best feature of the mouse. The scroll wheel is a standard up-down-left-right scroll wheel, but it also allows you to scroll fast through a document, webpage, or PowerPoint.

The wheel spins as if its almost frictionless, so there's no click-click-click to annoy you every time you turn the wheel.

The scroll wheel quickly became a handy feature as I was testing the mouse, since it makes it really easy to navigate through long documents or Web pages with one flick of your finger. I have to say this alone makes this device far better than any other on the market.

And the side scroll wheel? That's not quite what you think it is. That side scroll wheel can't scroll documents side to side, but you can program it to do something like scroll through Alt-Tab applications one at a time. This can come in handy when you're doing a repetitive task.

Unlike the main scroll wheel, the side scroll wheel doesn't spin;

it's just a wheel that you can push up or down. I would have liked to see a fully functional scroll wheel there. This is a small failing in a great product.

Overall though, the MX Revolution is a great mouse (for right-handed people, that is). The ergonomics and design are great, and the free spinning scroll wheel really makes it a fantastic mouse. It's highly recommended.

MX REVOLUTION

From: Logitech

Best feature: Top and side scroll wheels for easy navigation

Price: \$99 (but you can find it for \$40 online)

Available at: Amazon.com, NewEgg.com, Best Buy, etc.

Grade: A



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.LOGITECH.COM](http://www.logitech.com)

The top and side scroll buttons are clearly visible on this Logitech MX Revolution.

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter



... stealing your spotlight since 1896.

www.jhunewsletter.com

ODD BRAIN DISORDERS

Prosopagnosia: the selective inability to recognize faces; made famous in Oliver Sacks' book *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat*

Loggorrhea: an incessant, uncontrollable urge to talk; see also **coprolalia**, a symptom of Tourette's syndrome that involves blurting out words, often inappropriate obscenities

Agraphia: a loss of the ability to write

Abarognosis an inability to sense the weight of objects in one's hand

Apraxia: the inability to execute learned movements such as gesturing or walking

Dysgeusia: an impairment of the sense of taste; see also **anosmia**, the loss of the sense of smell

Akinetopsia: the inability to see motion or objects in motion

The Princeton Review

We Score More

GMAT GRE LSAT MCAT

Raise your score. Guaranteed.



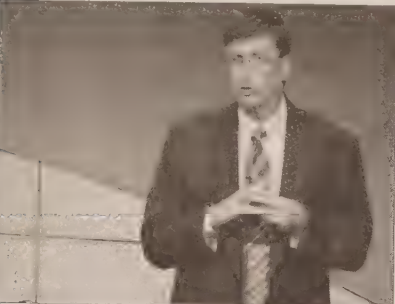
Classes Starting Soon. Call Now to Register.
800-2Review • PrincetonReview.com

YOUR NEWS-LETTER

Let yourself turn to the dork side

By DAVID MIELES
News-Letter Staff Writer

When someone steps into my room, the first thing they say (after they're absolutely amazed by the mess) is "Damn, you have a lot of computers..." (I currently own four computers, and I'm in the process of acquiring a fifth).



COURTESY OF VOGUE.VO.PIC.CENTERBLOG.NET
Bill Gates is a dork. Shouldn't you be one, too?

And believe it or not, every single one gets used and serves an important purpose (OK fine, maybe ONE of them doesn't). I must admit I do suffer from a tech addiction, but if you're smart (unlike me) and able to resist this obsession, being a geek can be quite rewarding.

Here are some reasons to turn over to the dork side. Embrace your inner geek and accept it.

YOU GO TO HOPKINS!

You can't possibly be that cool ... even if you play a sport, are in a fraternity/sorority and in the Hopkins 500 ... you came here for a reason, and I guarantee it wasn't to party. Just accept the fact that in some shape or form, you're a geek ... regardless of whether you admit it ...

Save some money:

Who doesn't like to save money? If you're a real dork, chances are you're well aware of the difference between a good deal when purchasing a new laptop or TV, and a total rip-off. Saving money doesn't necessarily mean you're a cheapskate ... it just means you now have more money to spend on more electronic goodies.

Help your future:

Keeping up with today's technology is a definite bonus for almost every job field out there. Having computer skills is definitely something you're going to want on your resume.

Dorks run the world

Like it or not, dorks run this world. They are the CEOs and the head engineers of big corporations. Being one of them suddenly doesn't sound too shabby, huh?

You've seen it in the movies:

The dork who is neglected but always ends up getting the girl: Believe it or not, I have managed to impress the ladies (in my case, the lady) with my tech-savvy gear and knowledge ... hey, how do you think Bond gets all his ladies?

The BEST way to have a girl keep you around: Be able to fix her computer, her iPod or her phone (thank God women are REALLY good at breaking things. Otherwise, there would be no hope for us.)

Save time and energy:

Communication is essential today. We have phones that do EVERYTHING we could possibly ever want ... and more. And being able to take advantage of today's technology simply makes life easier.

Learn:

With every little new gadget you acquire, you learn something new, which makes you a little more educated and keep you from being at the mercy of rip-off repair services such as the Geek Squad.

Make contacts:

Who do you think you're going to be learning from? If you're a geek, chances are you know a bigger one. They could later serve as very valuable contacts in the future ... imagine having a contact like Bill Gates.

Life after Hopkins: A graduate's story

By MARY ANITO
For The News-Letter

I graduated from Hopkins in 2006 with a BS in Materials Science and Engineering. For my job search while I was at Hopkins, I primarily used the Career Center and ended up at Sapien Corporation, a consulting firm I applied to on a whim. I was settled on my job by Thanksgiving of my senior year so I didn't have to worry too much the rest of the year, which was great. Everyone seems to get stressed by the idea of looking for jobs, but spending some time early on can make the rest of senior year much easier.

Originally I accepted my new job in Santa Monica, Calif. but after looking at the logistics of moving to California, I decided on a move to Washington, D.C. instead. I always said I would never end up in D.C. since there were too many Hopkins people settled down there, but alas. After taking the summer off, I started my true life after college in September — I would recommend doing the same to anyone else.

Over the summer one CEO resigned and during my first two weeks the second CEO resigned amidst a Securities and Exchange Committee (SEC) investigation. Both men were the original founders. I did not know what I had gotten into. They changed our titles (demoted us) before our first day and docked all of the non-engineers' pay. I was scared and spent an hour in the bathroom on the phone with my dad talking about if this was really what I was to expect from the real world.

But I got lucky. In consulting there is this thing called the beach/bench/some variation of client-free work time and I was on it for the first two or three months. So my first few months after Hopkins were a breeze. I worked just 40 hours a week essentially coming up with activities to fill my own time.

I finally got placed on a project at the Library of Congress, which required me to go to my client site every day and actually gave me some responsibility — I loved it. I had great clients and still got to work reasonable hours, in addition to getting to explore a whole new section of D.C. But after Hopkins, I was used to constant stimulation and

challenges that the work world, at least in consulting, was not giving me. I knew my project was going to finish around the start of the New Year so I joined Monster and started scouring Craigslist. While everyone talked about giving your first job a year, I figured it would be better to be

doing something I loved rather than just sticking it out just to say I did. I searched all around the world, willing to relocate internationally or at least to the other coast. My boyfriend was still at Hopkins, finishing up his last semester so I figured I'd start looking for new places and plan on moving by summer. I had some interviews during my time when I was back on the beach without any clients but I was not impressed by the salary offerings. One thing people had ingrained in me was not to switch jobs and take a pay cut.

At the end of January I got onto a new project at the National Institutes of Health. It was just like being back at school, down to the campus structure and feeling like I was working for professors again. But this time my professors did not have my best interest in mind — it seemed like the principal investigators in the labs I worked with wanted to prove that I was unworthy since I had sold out of science and was a consultant. At least I still got to work with a lot of young people, and my own Sapien team was amazing.

We worked 7:30 to 3:30 on most days, which took some getting used to at first but now I miss it. I got home from work by 4 p.m. most days and still could enjoy so much of my day; this was when I started realizing how great D.C. is. It is a great city just to walk around, and there are tons of restaurants and fun activities.

I had been on a lot of soccer teams through the fall and winter, but in the spring my compa-



FILE PHOTO

Hopkins may be the center of your world now, but life goes on.

ny joined a softball league on the Mall which was so much fun. My work was not everything I wanted it to be but was quite tolerable, and my co-workers were some of my closest friends in D.C., which made it all the more bearable.

Hopkins had taught me to expect more, though, so I knew I was not going to stay in consulting forever, and I wanted to get back into more engineering-based work. After applying to a lot of jobs over the summer I ended up choosing between Schlumberger, an oil fields services company, and Cisco Systems, a technology company focused on technical solutions.

At Schlumberger I would have been a full-time engineer but they wanted me to work in Shreveport, La., which I did not think I would like. I decided to move to Cisco Systems and work as a component engineer — combining a lot of the project management work I did in consulting with the engineering background Hopkins had given me.

I moved up to Boston in November for the new job and have been freezing ever since. But it was a great move for me in terms of my career and has given me a better technical balance. Though I am freezing after my five years away from the Northeast, I think waiting it out and giving Sapien a year rather than moving just to move really paid off. I am glad I waited until really finding an ideal job. So far I've enjoyed my life after Hopkins quite a bit — the real world is easy once you survive Hopkins!

YOUR tracks

Compiled by Cara Selick

While placing articles on the Your News-Letter page, reading them over and writing some articles myself, it is not at all unlikely to find me with my ears plugged by some buds and my mind totally unreachable. So sit back, relax and learn what's going in one ear and out the other as your YNL editor puts together the very page you're reading!

"Edit" — Regina Spektor: OK, I have to admit, this seems pretty planned! But this song is legitimately within my iPod's 25 most played playlist, not even a self-created playlist, but one created by math and statistics and ... adding! This is by far NOT my favorite Regina Spektor song, but it is fairly characteristic of her general style, plus a little added beat which makes it more listenable to those who aren't into the slower *a capella* tracks she has.

"Stereo" — John Legend: John Legend's voice makes my bones happy. And while his breakout song "Ordinary People" was at times heartachingly gorgeous, it is extremely refreshing to hear his voice paired with a more upbeat sound and hip hop groove. It's also pretty catchy, which I'm always a sucker for.

"My Fault" — Eminem: So, don't hate me, but I find this song absolutely hilarious. I have a soft, sweet place in my heart for Marshall Mathers's hard, crude rhymes. For those who haven't heard this particular track, it's the story of a party where a girl he's flirting with ends up eating an entire bag of shrooms, causing her to trip out like no other ... and eventually die. It's actually a very touching tale of one man's guilt over — oh, who am I kidding, it's just funny to hear Eminem describe a messed up girl talking to a plant!

"Grace Kelly" — Mika: Anybody who knows me knows that I'm pretty much obsessed with skinny little Mika. His songs in general are just tons of fun. He (intentionally) reminds me of Freddy Mercury, and seeing as I'm also pretty much obsessed with Queen, it works to his advantage. His songs seem to almost hop up and down, and this song in particular is just a blast to sing along to, especially once you realize that a guy is singing an octave higher than you could ever possibly reach!

"Rompe" — Daddy Yankee: If you're anything like me, sometimes you just like to stand up and start shaking your booty ... even if you are painfully white. Either this song or "Gasolina" contain all of the expected Reggaeton elements that perfectly lend themselves to dancing. Consistent bass, dirty lyrics in Spanish that you may not even understand, repeated choruses that are easy to shout out when in a club, beats over beats over beats, all just scream out "GET UP AND SHAKE IT!" If you can resist the temptation, you're far stronger than I am.

"Fuck the Pain Away" — Peaches: Call me a perv, and I will respond, "You betcha!" The funniest thing about this song is that it's the most fun to sing when in the car driving with a bunch of your girlfriends. There's just something about screaming out, "Sucking on my titties like you wanted me, calling me, all the time like Blondie check out my chrissey behind it's fine all of the time," that just brings a bunch of girls together. Plus, this song contains some very useful advice such as "Stay in school, 'cause it's the best," as well as "Fuck the pain away." This is actually extremely good advice, if the pain happens to be menstrual cramps, since it's proven that the hormones and endorphines and all that good stuff during sex and orgasms and all can help relieve cramps!

"Chump" — Green Day: The first line, "I don't know you, but I think I hate you," tends to appeal to my cynical and anti-social side. I personally feel that any song on their album Dookie is awesome and catchy and what they should be all about. Everything since ... let's just not go into that.

"Save Tonight" — Eagle Eye Cherry: I recently came across this song again, was reminded of middle school and got extremely excited. I also like the acoustic guitar at the beginning and the nice almost soothing voice of the lead.

"Stronger" — Kanye West: I f---ing love Kanye! There are just some people you find, and you like their voice, you like their lyrics (even if you don't always understand what they mean) and you like their beat. For me Kanye is one of those people. This song is pretty popular and well-known so I don't think I have to say much more about it other than that I can't seem to ever get away from it, and I don't mind!

"Paper Planes" — M.I.A.: I also happen to be a complete M.I.A. freak, especially since I saw her in concert (check out the review on the News-Letter Web site!) This song inevitably will be played while sitting on Amtrak waiting to get to New York. "Sometimes I think sitting on trains, every stop I get to I'm clocking my game."

Five of the most action-packed scenes of movie history

By SEAN MURPHY
News-Letter Staff Writer

All guys like to watch movies where things blow up, blood is drawn and cars go very very fast.

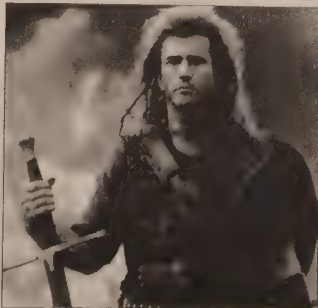
We spend our lives searching for the films which include the most guns, the largest death counts, and the most bang for our buck. Thus I present to you some of the best action scenes of all time (in no particular order):

Braveheart battle:

Even if Mel Gibson is crazy, *Braveheart* was an epic movie. Its best action sequence comes when William Wallace, the leader of rebel Scots, leads an ill equipped army against the English forces.

Before the battle, Wallace gives a speech in which he bellows the over repeated but nevertheless great line, "They can take our lives, but they can never take our freedom."

The battle commences and



COURTESY OF
WWW.MOVIEWALLPAPERS.NET
Braveheart

limbs fall left and right as the axes and swords of the Scots beat the Brits down.

Gladiator battle in Rome:

Once a general, Maximus, played by Russell Crowe, is a gladiator expected to die in a re-enactment of a famous battle.

At the beginning of the fight,



COURTESY OF WWW.MGEISLER.NET
Gladiator

Maximus pulls the gladiators into formation as chariots with archers and mounted fighters circle around them. Seemingly out-matched, the gladiators knock a chariot over with their shields and slaughter the expected winners.

In unknown defiance of the emperor, the crowd cheers for the victorious Maximus as he parades around the arena on a fallen enemy's horse.

The Matrix building siege:

Slow motion fight scenes are usually cliché, but in *The Matrix*, it's just great entertainment. When Neo (Keanu Reeves) and Trinity (Carrie-Anne Moss) lay waste to the marble foyer of an office building to save their leader Morpheus, they use enough bullets to take down a battalion.

Performing cartwheels and flips throughout the scene while



COURTESY OF WWW.ATT.NET
The Matrix

keeping emotionless faces, Neo and Trinity destroy everything in their way.

Ben-Hur chariot race:

For it's time, the special effects of *Ben-Hur's* chariot race were top notch. On the largest film stage ever made, some 18 acres, and after three months of filming, the scene was finished.

Ben-Hur, played by Charlton



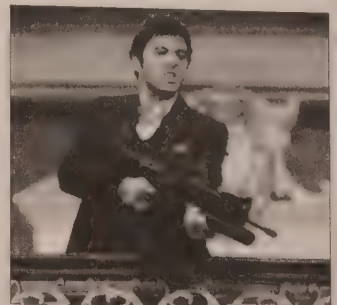
COURTESY OF WWW.TVGUIDE.COM
Ben-Hur

Heston, races his enemy Mesala, whose chariot crashes. The other chariots proceed to trample Mesala's body, shocking audiences with its gore.

This scene has also developed a persisting urban legend, that a stunt man was killed during filming. Although no evidence supports the theory, the intensity of the scene remains.

Scarface final gun battle:

Tony Montana's (Al Pacino) cocaine empire has fallen and his sister and closest friend are dead. He has nothing to live for but to kill anyone who tries to kill him. As a swarm of gunmen overtakes his mansion and




COURTESY OF
WWW.CINEMATICWALLPAPER.COM
Scarface

approaches him in his office, Montana pulls an absurdly large gun with a grenade launcher attached.


He then says the iconic line that we all know, "Say hello to my little friend," and blows the door open, killing several men. Despite being outnumbered, Montana unleashes his fury on a dozen gunmen, taking bullets in his torso but ignoring any pain. He staggers and from behind another gunman with a shotgun approaches and shoots.

CARTOONS, ETC.


your horoscope




Aries: (March 21 - April 19)
Why can't I be the smartest, prettiest little girl at Hopkins? I could totally win Hopkins Top Model, right?




Taurus: (April 20 - May 20)
Can't take the heat of C Level? Then try sizzle of B, the low simmer of A or the lukewarm stench of M.




Gemini: (May 21 - June 20)
The worst thing ever is when you have to poo and there aren't any bathrooms. This week, stand near a bathroom at all times.




Cancer: (June 21 - July 22)
News-Letter should be your weekly cosmic guide. You should read it every week for the secret message hidden somewhere in it!




Leo: (July 23 - August 22)
"Get off your damn ass and get me some lovin'!" is a perfect way to start your post-Valentine's hook-up relationship.




Virgo: (August 23 - Sept. 22)
The best part of waking up is a big dump in your cup. Not your thing? That's just because you haven't tried it.




Libra: (Sept. 23 - October 22)
Day-to-day drama is no fun unless you're watching *Days of Our Lives*. It's always better when it's someone else.




Scorpio: (October 23 - Nov. 21)
Off in another galaxy some alternate you is actually listening to this horoscope. The other you is smart.




Sagittarius: (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
When it's time to leave a party, please don't announce it to everyone as your "beddy-bye" time. It's not cute.



Capricorn: (Dec. 23 - January 19)
It is a rough week when your mom doesn't even return your phone calls. You need a puppy. They won't screen you.



Aquarius: (January 20 - Feb. 18)
Snows in February are like the best snows ever. Especially on leap years, because there are more snow-day opportunities.



Pisces: (Feb. 19 - March 20)
A lot of what you read isn't true. Except for everything you read in this rag. It's all real, baby, not an untrue word spoken here!

Trivia Time

- What are the plastic parts of a shoelace called?
- What is the dot above the lowercase "i" called?
- What is the name of Paris Hilton's dog?

1. aglets, 2. tittle, 3. If you know this, you lose.

Sudoku

7			8		2	3		
	5			6	4	1		
		1						
	4		2		8		3	7
		7				2		
2	3		7		6		4	
					4			
		5	4	8			2	
		8	6		7			3

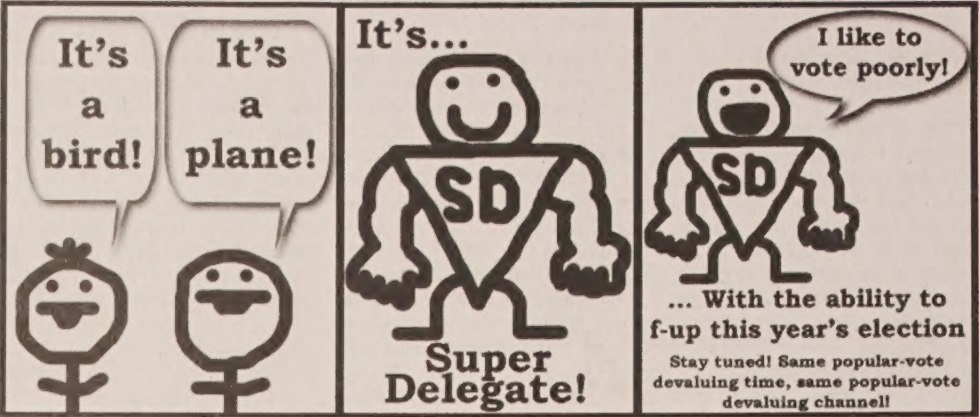
Random Information

by Natachi Chukumerije



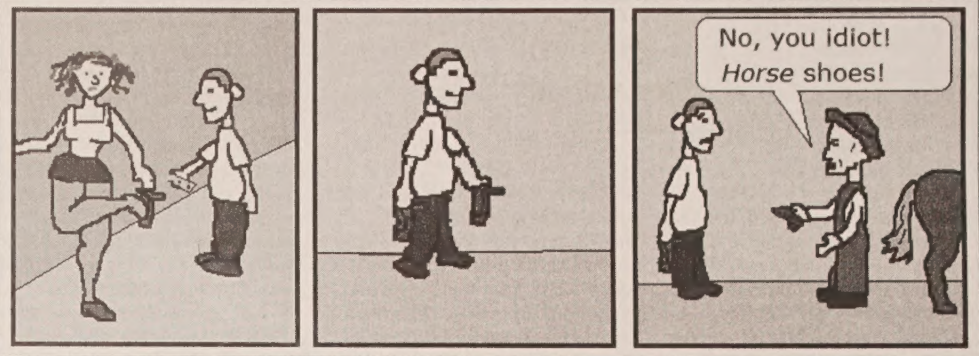
Comicali

by Joe Micali



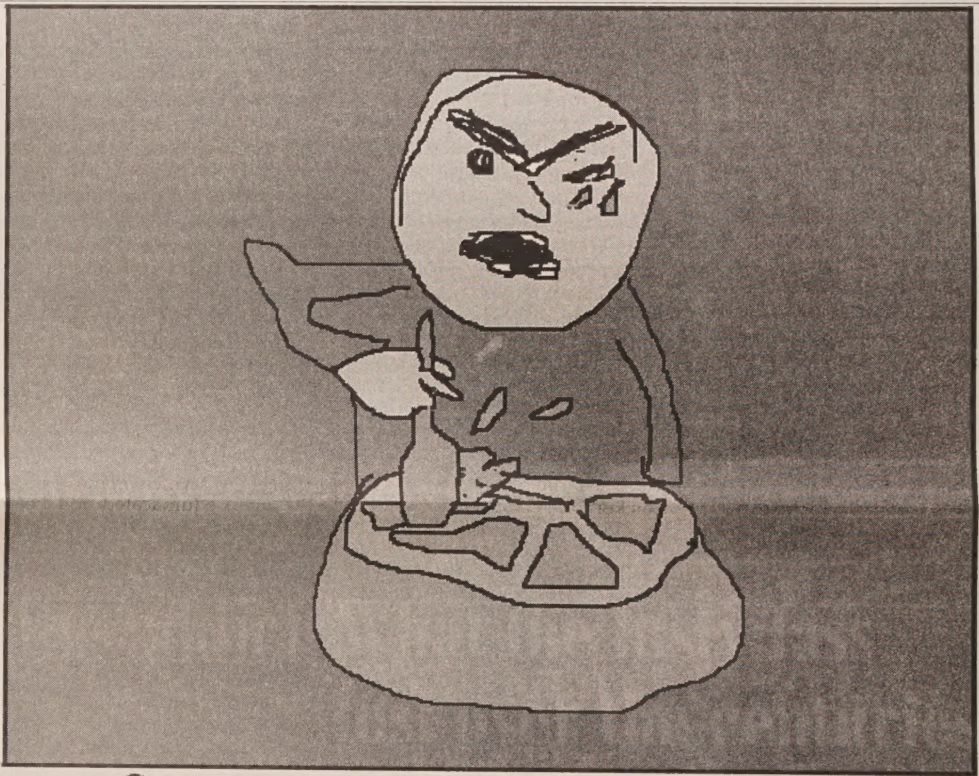
Wasted Ink

by Nate Min



A Photo in Time

by Nate Min



Grapefruit fights back.

Romance for and by idiots

Tomorrow, I'm going to Texas for a weekend to "see about a girl" (thank you, *Good Will Hunting*). She is an ex-girlfriend, but based on the outcome of the visit, she may (hopefully) again become my girlfriend. While it's all very risky and unexpected, I'm extremely, extremely excited (as, I believe, is she).

Here's the relevant part, the part worthy of a column: I've been thinking of little romantic things I can do while I'm there. This is separate from things to bring her; I must actually do at least one romantic thing.

Here's the best idea I've got so far: I hope that one morning I just happen to wake up before she does (which, if my memory is correct, is pretty likely).

I will quietly get out of bed, get dressed, find her car keys and drive to the gigantic, Texas-sized grocery store (I remember the way there from the last time I visited her). Before I leave, I will put a note on the nightstand saying something like, "I just had to take your car for a few minutes — don't worry."

At the store, I will buy her flowers, and I will get the ingredients to make her breakfast in bed. I'm thinking either French toast or blueberry pancakes, as each of those is just elaborate enough to be impressive but is still so fundamentally simple that I'm pretty sure I can pull it off. It probably wouldn't be all that romantic to try to talk her into eating a scorched crepe or a poorly folded omelet.

Once I get back, I will make breakfast — all while she's still asleep, of course — and then I will wake her up gently, point out the fresh flowers in a vase next to her bed and serve her breakfast in bed.

Cue the swelling romantic soundtrack and video montage of Renée Zellweger committing seppuku, right? Oh sorry, half of that might just be my personal fantasy. But overall, it sounds like a romantic idea, doesn't it?

I foresee her having one of two reactions to all this. Either she'll love it, or she'll be really, really pissed.

Adar Eisenbruch Let's Talk

If she loves it, then the whole affair will score me some major brownie points, which should translate into near-constant sexual activity and (knock on wood) not having to watch anything really sh--y on TV, like *Dress that Crazy Bride* or whatever they're calling it these days.

The other reaction would be far more unfortunate for me but would probably be more entertaining for any eavesdropping neighbors. It wouldn't be totally unreasonable for her to say something subtly angry.

Something like: "What the f--?! Don't you ever take my car without asking!" My suave defense of, "But breakfast is the most important meal of the day!"

might not cut it.

"You know what else is important? NOT STEALING CARS! What if you'd gotten into an accident? No one would know where you'd gone, my car would be totaled and I wouldn't even know it! You did this for what? Some f---ing breakfast? How about the stress of thinking you're going to be there when I wake up, and then I find you gone without a trace? Yeah, that's real romantic. Pancakes are the least you owe me after that!

"Oh, your precious little note? Yeah, well forgive me for not thinking to put in my contacts and go sleuthing around my apartment for clues as to why I'd been suddenly abandoned and had my car stolen!"

This would probably leave me in a situation of near-constant sexual frustration, with nothing but reruns of *Extreme Makeover: Dancing with Midgets Edition* to distract me from how much of an idiot I am.

I don't really think that the last scenario has much chance of happening, largely because the girl I'm going to visit is not a psycho. But it's a possibility. You never know what's going to just set somebody off, like, for example, becoming a victim of grand theft auto in the name of surprise and romance.

Frankly, just the thought of it backfiring might be enough to prevent me from actually going through with my plan. The chances are slim, but the risk is grave.

I'd better bring her a teddy bear or something.

Track teams shatter school records in NYC

By MIKE PORAMBO
News-Letter Staff Writer

Last Friday both the men's and women's track and field teams traveled up to Armory Track and Field Center in New York, N.Y. for the Lafayette Rider Games, competing with schools in the Mid-Atlantic region from all divisions, including Columbia, Penn, Haverford and Rutgers.

Both the men's and women's teams broke school records, with senior James Bronson running a 2:35.56 in the 1,000-meters and junior Paula Osborn running an 8.16 in the 60-meter dash. Bronson finished

12th overall in the event and in the process qualified for the Eastern College Athletic Conference championships, and Osborn finished 16th overall, also qualifying her for ECACs. She also qualified in the 200-meter dash, running a 26.96, finishing 35th overall.

Many other Blue Jays fared well also. Sophomore Nate Sotuyo qualified for ECAC's in the 800-meters, finishing the race in 1:58.14. Senior Tristan Thomas qualified for ECACs in both the 60- and 200-meter dashes, running a 7.05 in the 60-meters and a 22.65 in the 200-meters, finishing eighth and 18th place, respectively. The Jays' best event was arguably the 3,000-meters placing two runners in the top 10 and qualifying three for ECACs. Sophomores Graham Belton and David Sigmon finished ninth and 10th, with times of 8:49.64 and 8:52.49, respectively. Senior Patrick Bran-

don ran a 8:55.38 to finish 18th. Hopkins finished sixth in the 4x800 relay with a time of 8:04.09, consisting of Sotuyo, Bronson, senior Jason Hortiatis and freshman Elliot Wehner. "It was a great meet. Everyone ran very well on the Armory's banked track," said freshman Cornelius Queen, who finished 28th in the 800-meter with a time of 1.09.86.

"We're moving in the right direction for the upcoming conference meet."

The women's team had many standout performances as well. "Everyone showed up to compete," said junior Jordan Ireton, who, along with freshman

Kit Harris, finished 15th and 16th with times of 2:22.03 and 2:22.78, respectively, in the 800-meter. Ireton qualified for ECACs in the event. "The facilities at the Armory Track are really nice; it was great to bring out so many people to run heats and break school records," Harris said.

Freshman Martina Dodd ran well in the 800-meter also, finishing 27th with a time of 2:26.50. Freshman Christina Valerio finished sixth in the 5,000-meters with a time of 18:57.48. Junior Rachel Hogen qualified for ECACs in the one-mile, running it in 5:12.44 to finish 14th. The team of Osborn, freshman Anita Mikkilineni, Dodd and Ireton ran the 4x400 relay in 4:11.62, qualifying them for ECACs, just missing the school record. Look for both the women's and men's teams to come out ready to compete on Friday at the Haverford Keough Invitational.

We're moving in the right direction for the upcoming conference meet.

— FRESHMAN
CORNELIUS QUEEN

Sports Intersession: a fan's focus after the Bowl

By DEMIAN KENDALL
Sports Editor

The world of professional sports has reached a point in the year that I like to call "Sports Intersession," the too-long period of time between the Super Bowl and baseball's spring training when sports fans are forced to watch either basketball or hockey. I, for one, have never been able to get as excited about either of the two sports to the degree of football or baseball. I suppose I'm a Celtics and Bruins fans by default, but that only goes about as far as wearing my '84 World Champs T-shirt and bragging about Larry Bird and Bobby Orr.

This dull period was exemplified this Sunday when I turned my television. I had two options: the professional bowling championship on ESPN or the National Cheerleading Competition on ESPN2. I gave each a fair chance (which lasted about five minutes) before I couldn't take it anymore. I will admit that it's not that bad — I did watch the pool trick shots competition later that day for about a half-hour, but that was mostly because of my love for Jeanette Lee, the Black Widow.

So what are sports fans supposed to do in this dry period? What does "Sports Intersession" have to offer us? I, for one, get my fix from the behind-the-scenes action that's been going on lately in the sports world.

As a Boston fan, I've immersed myself in the Belichick cheating scandal. Despite how depressing it is to see all the glory the Patriots have achieved fade away into controversy, I still read all the interviews and all the press coverage, hoping that if the allegations are true, then Big Bill can weasel his way out and somehow salvage as much of his reputation as he can. However, I can only read so much about the Patriots before I start getting Superbowl flashbacks. For the record, part of me



CONOR KEVITT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Brian McNamee admitting to lie after lie from the repeating questioning line of Indiana Republican Congressman Dan Burton.

still dies inside each time I see a New York Giants Super Bowl Champions T-shirt or hat.

The Kyle Kendrick prank cheered me up. For those who didn't catch it, this week, Kyle Kendrick, a pitcher for the Philadelphia Phillies, found out that he was being traded to the Japanese team, the Yomiuri Giants, for a player by the name of "Kobayashi Iwamura." Little did he know that such a trade is illegal by MLB rules, and there is, in fact, no such player in the Japanese League by that name. Kendrick took the bait, though, and was stricken speechless with the prospect of moving to Japan. The "trade" was actually a prank, put together by fellow pitcher Brett Myers with the help of the Phillies' managers.

And what sports fan can ig-

nore baseball's bigger story, the Clemens hearing? I was tempted to skip my noon class last week as I sat on my couch watching the interrogations get gradually more and more ridiculous. I know I'm not alone when I say that in 2008, a watershed year in politics, with an economy spiraling downward

and a war going on overseas, doesn't Congress have more important things to do? There's already been speculation that, if Clemens is convicted of perjury, he will be pardoned by President Bush. So in a sense, all this brouhaha could end up being for nothing.

Whether it's justified or not, the hearing definitely gives us something to talk about and something to follow. It gave me a little thrill seeing good-ole-boy Indiana Congressman Dan Burton grill Brian McNamee over and over, and hearing McNamee admit to lie after lie. I could have gone without Burton's fire-

and-brimstone speech about "trial by media" after his line of questioning, but I suppose old Congressmen deserve a chance to rant every once in a while. Even if Burton didn't accomplish anything in his interrogation, he definitely scared the pants of McNamee.

And speaking of Brian McNamee, I may be alone on this one, but he sort of freaks me out. He's a creepy looking dude. I went on the ESPN Web site after the hearing, and there he was, front and center, doing a sort of Dramatic Chipmunk glare and I felt like he was staring into my soul. Then again, I'm freaked out by the Hopkins Blue Jay mascot as well.

So I guess this is all sports fans have for now. However, sports intersession is just about over. The Hopkins lacrosse team has its first face-off this Saturday against Albany, and MLB spring training starts in exactly one week. It's just about time to forget about the Super Bowl travesty and the steroid scandal, get a good seat in the Nest and get back in the game.



Demian Kendall
Out of Left Field

W. basketball comes up short in nail-biter

It was back and forth all night as the Jays faced the Mules in what was to be a five-point game

Continued from Page B12
rest of the half, it was a battle of mammal vs. fowl as the Mules and Jays went back and forth on baskets, and it was 21-21 with only 8:30 to go before the break.

Junior forward Kristin Phillips knocked down a three-pointer just a minute later to put Hopkins up 24-21.

However, Muhlenberg would tighten their grip and score 10 of the final 12 points in the half to make the score 31-26 as the teams headed into the locker room.

In the locker room, the Jays planned out what had to be done. Play defense and play it hard. Muhlenberg was throwing everything at them, and the best way to win this game would be to get those rebounds, make their shots and swat down anything in reach that headed to the Mules basket.

When the two teams retook the court, Hopkins hit their first two buckets in the second half to make the score 31-30. However, Muhlenberg quickly came back and went on a 10-3 scoring spree over the next four minutes to take the largest lead of the game at 41-33. With 14:30 left in the game, the Lady Jays clawed their way back to make it only a six-point deficit. At just over six minutes left to play, junior guard Caitlin Sloan sunk a three-pointer to make it a 45-42

match in favor of Muhlenberg. About three minutes later, Phillips sunk her two free throws to make it a 49-48 point game, making a Hopkins come-back seem to be somewhat of a re-

tics. Dodrill was just shy of a double-double on the day with 12 points and nine rebounds, while freshman forward Lyndsay Burton put up eight points and led the defense with nine rebounds.

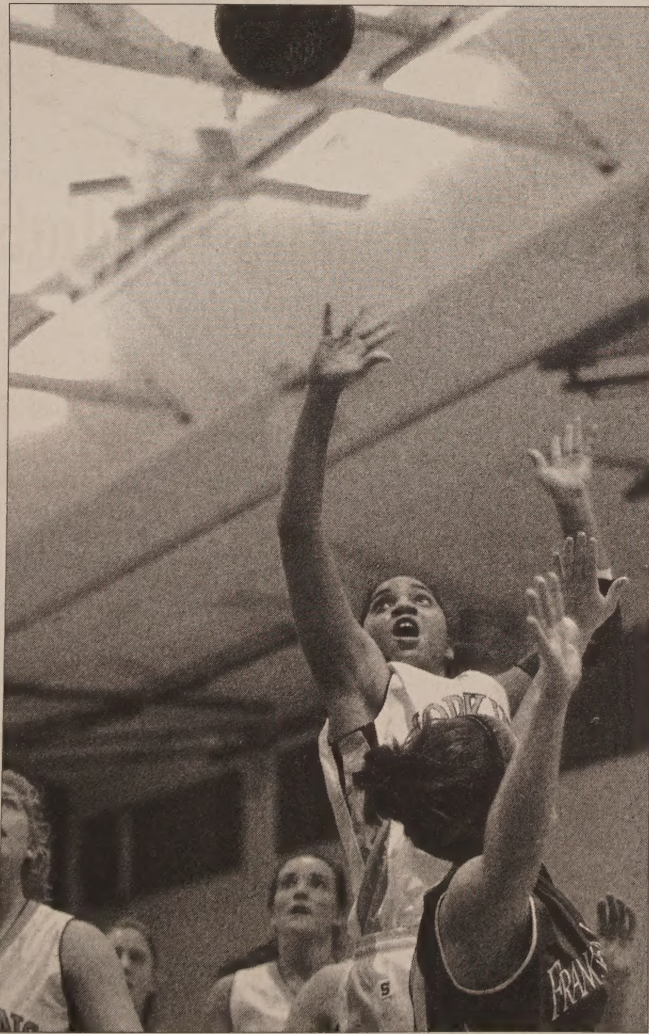
After travelling to Bryn Mawr on Wednesday, Feb. 20, the ladies will host Washington College to close out the regular season at the Goldfarb Gymnasium at 1 p.m. The Blue Jays hold a 19-0 record in the all-time series with Washington.

Just earlier this season, Hopkins clawed their way back to win the game against Washington from a 14-point deficit. During that match, Phillips had a career-high 18 rebounds and 17 points. The Jays hope to have a repeat performance on Saturday.

In addition to hopefully extending the series score against Washington to 20-0, Hopkins will take a moment before the game to honor Dodrill and her final season with the Jays.

She currently leads the squad, as she is averaging 10.6 points per game and 9.7 rebounds per game.

She enters the week ranked sixth in career rebounds at Hopkins with 622 rebounds and she has scored in 48 straight games. Her final home game will definitely be a memorable one.



CONOR KEVITT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Sophomore guard Anastasia Wynn soars above competitors to reach a rebound.

ality. However, this would be the closest that Hopkins would get to Muhlenberg, as the hosts scored eight of the final 11 points in the game to seal the 57-52 victory.

Despite the heart-breaking loss, the Jays put up some decent numbers. Phillips led the squad with her seventh double-double of the season, and she added 12 points and a game-high 15 rebounds to the Hopkins statis-

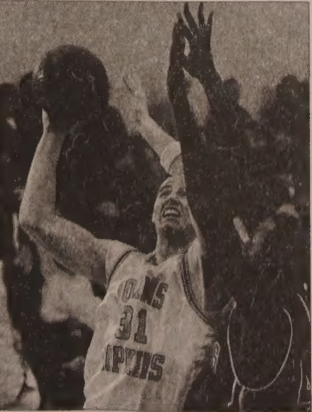
M. basketball nets an early playoff berth

Continued from Page B12
winning the game 61-47.

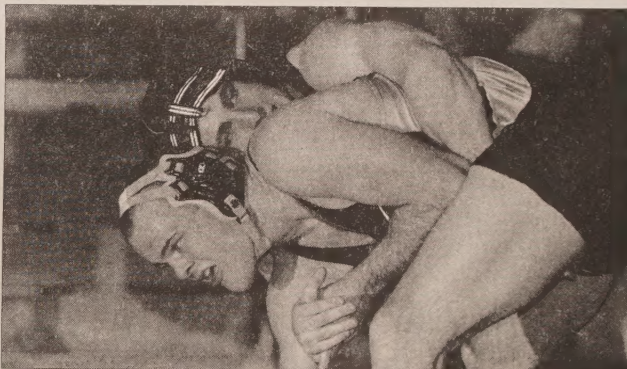
The high scorer for the Jays was Roach. He scored a career-high 17 points on 8-12 shooting from the field. Kamm finished with 12 points while senior Doug Polster finished with 11. The game was won by the Jays in the second half. The Mules dominated the first 20 minutes of the game, out-rebounding the Jays 19-13. The numbers were almost entirely flipped in the second half, where the Jays had 20 to the Mules' 12.

The Jays improved their record to 10-6. The win means that the Jays were guaranteed a spot in this year's postseason. The Mules must now contend with Dickinson and Franklin & Marshall in a race for the final fifth playoff spot as they head into the last week of the season. Though the Mules were unsuccessful this weekend, they didn't lose any ground. Their one-game lead held as both Dickinson and Franklin & Marshall suffered tough losses.

The Jays return to action later this week on Wednesday, Feb. 20. They head out to face McDaniel in a match that will give us a taste of things to come. Neither team will be taking the match up lightly. See you on the court.



CONOR KEVITT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Sophomore forward Andrew Farber-Miller.



CONOR KEVITT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

AROUND THE LEAGUE

Men's Basketball	14-9 record Clinched playoff berth
Women's Basketball	10-12 record
Wrestling	5-10 record 4th in Conference
Men's Track	Five runners qualified for ECACs
Women's Track	Team qualified for ECACs
Men's Fencing	25-12 record
Women's Fencing	16-13 record
Men's Swimming	8-3 record
Women's Swimming	6-5 record

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
BRAD TEST, MEN'S SWIMMING

From fumbling floaties to swift Speedos

By MARY DOMAN
Sports Editor

He's a three-time All-American, an NCAA Champion in the 400-meter medley relay, a two-time NCAA runner-up in the 200 Medley Relay and owns 18 All-American awards. Not to mention he swiped three first place finishes on Saturday against Emory and North Carolina. He's a caring older brother of two little sisters, a good student and on his way to becoming a successful financial analyst. To top it off, he's got a personality that freshman teammate Brian Keeley describes as "charming and funny." But believe it or not, the blessed life of senior Hopkins swimmer Brad Test hasn't held such smooth waters. After spending time with the men's team captain, I learned about the life of a man constantly treading water.

Test's first dives in the water resembled nothing of his smooth plunges during his later years. "Despite having swimmies on my arms and a bubble on my back, I feared I would sink," Test recalled. After countless failed attempts to jump on his own, he found his six-year-old body flying towards the water after a nice shove from his own mother. Thanks to Mrs. Test's love tap, her son's childhood enemy is now one of his best friends.

The pool is a place of solitude for Test, a man who needs quality "self" in his busy and successful life. For him, the quiet waters are a place to "rock out songs in my head and think about the problems of the day." During meets the pool's purpose changes, however, and becomes a place only to "think about beating people, of course." The mental aspect of the sport is appealing to Test, whose mind needs just as much exercise as his body. In his younger years, the pool became a place of refuge for the young swimmer, who was "pretty awkward and immature."

That is, until he hit puberty in 11th grade. Then things started



CONOR KEVITT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

looking up for Test. Not only was he a star on his high school swim team, but he was also on the school's soccer and water polo teams. "Making the third team in soccer was the real highlight of my high school athletic career," he said. The lifestyle of Test is also enhanced by his superb body, which he keeps in perfect condition thanks to the team's multi-layered practice schedule that consists of weightlifting, dry land training and yoga. "What would you say is the biggest benefit of being a swimmer in the everyday life of Brad Test?" I asked. "Not being fat," he responded. Maybe this explains his later statement: "My Speedos come in handy some nights."

Back in the pool, though (where he usually sports leg suits), Test's night life is the last thing on his mind. "He knows how to have fun outside of the pool and practices but also knows when it's time to be serious and focus on an important meet or

practice," junior teammate David Postetter said.

"Brad is, hands down, the hardest worker to ever come through this school," junior teammate Bob Serшон said.

Not only is his work ethic setting all-time Hopkins highs, but earlier this week, Test's name hit the press in the sports section of the *Baltimore Sun*. Though the mention was brief, Test's name was written with anticipation of a future article on his status as the "most decorated swimmer in school history." Currently, Test's 18 All-American awards tie him for second as Hopkins's most decorated swimmer. After

the team's upcoming meets, there's a chance he might beat Matt Johnson's 1998 record of 25. "We're all very excited to

see what he can do this coming championship season," junior teammate John Kegelman said.

In the meantime, though, Test takes things one day at a time. Right now, he's just focusing on swimming and school (but, ladies, he is single!) and spending his down time "enjoying endlessly tormenting my roommate Nick Erardi with my other roommate Ryan Kuhlman." Besides that, he sticks to the life motto that's brought the once awkward pre-pubescent boy in swimmies to become the Speedo-ed swimming star known as Brad Test: "Just try and be a good person."

VITAL STATISTICS

Year: Senior

Major: Economics

Hopkins Highlights:
Second most decorated Hopkins men's swimmer, NCAA Champion

W. swimming takes first place in final regular season meet

By SIMRAN HYDAL
For The News-Letter

After a four-day event, the Jays Varsity women's swimming team finished on top to seize their third straight Blue Grass Mountain Conference Championship Saturday, Feb. 16 over the Wingate Bulldogs. The team took it to a new level at the championship event, having many of the swimmers breaking not only season bests, but career records as well.

Junior Kate Hansen, freshman Michele Palopoli, junior Megan Zepp and junior Elissa Stautner captured first place in the 800 freestyle relay, for a season record time of 3:36.71. According to Hansen, "It was a really great meet for our team and it was a lot of fun."

The Blue Jays dominated in the 400 individual medley, taking gold, silver and bronze in the event with Hansen cutting her career best time to 4:38.45 also earning her one of her two first Blue Grass Championship titles. She was followed by freshman Mary Claire Kozlowski, who also set a career best time of 4:41.80. Freshman Caitlin Dennis finished third with a time of 4:42.02.

Other Lady Blue Jay events with outstanding results included the 200 backstroke where, on the last day of the championship, junior Erica Pakkala won the 200 for the third straight time at the Blue Grass Championships with a time of 2:07.12. Behind her were Hansen, sophomore Robin Schaffer and junior Megan Zepp to take third (2:09.38), fifth (2:12.38) and sixth

(2:21.41), respectively.

The individual 500 freestyle event was another strong showing for the Lady Jays, who secured second through fifth with a season best time from Stautner (5:04.65), career best times from Hansen (5:10.54) and freshman Kathleen Heslin (5:14.25) and a season record breaker for Zepp (5:14.57).

Stautner won yet another title as well, claiming the 200 freestyle event a career best time of 1:54.60, leaving Zepp (1:58.13) and sophomore Katie Vance (2:00.36) to take seventh and eighth, respectively.

Freshman Meagan Heslin also had a great weekend; she won the 200 fly (2:07.96), followed by fellow classman Michele Palopoli in second (2:08.86). Among the many other stellar freshmen finishes at the BGMCC, Kathleen Heslin, sister of Meagan Heslin,

Palopoli continued the impressive freshmen representation at the BGMCC with a second place finish in 58:65 in the 100 butterfly.

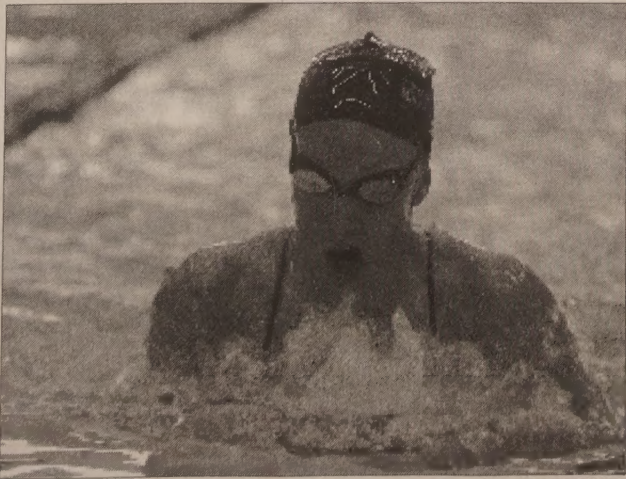
Though this meet was particularly impressive in comparison to last week's not-so-hot performance, overall the weekend blended well with a season of solid performances by the Jays. Though their 6-5 record this season may suggest otherwise, one has to keep in mind that the Division-III Jays have faced Division I opponents including the University of Maryland, Navy and the University of North Carolina.

Junior Megan Zepp said, "Because we swim against some teams that are not in our division or even our conference, our dual meet record doesn't reflect upon the overall success of the season."

The steady incline of the women's team is in part due to a quality coaching staff which includes five-time NCAA Division III National Coach of the Year, George Kennedy. Next to Kennedystands assistant coach Ted Bresnahan and first year assistant coach Allie Foster.

Foster, a former Blue Jay, is a record setting, four-year All-American. Zepp expressed her confidence when discussing the newest addition to the coaching staff. "She [Foster] really understands the women's team and gives great balance to the program."

The upperclassmen also credit the team's success to the



FILE PHOTO

Many of the women achieved personal best times against Wingate University.

won the 1000 freestyle event with a career best time of 10:39.36, followed by fellow freshman MaryClaire Kozlowski who finished second, also in career best fashion with a time of 10:45:23. Kathleen Heslin also took second place in the 1650 free with a time of 17:40:88. Freshman Michele

The steroid scandal:
morality v. masculinity

By MAX DWORIN
News-Letter Staff Writer

With many of baseball's biggest names going in front of Congress in recent weeks due to disputes about the accuracy of the Mitchell Report, it begs the question of whether there is a purpose behind all the subpoenas. Why do we care if Roger Clemens did steroids? If true, it was his personal decision. Should we blame Andy Pettitte for trying to resuscitate his career? I don't think so. Do we really need to punish Adam Piatt for doing everything he could to scrounge out a major league career, even if it did involve using performance-enhancing drugs? Probably not.

The fact is, we all probably would have done the same. Take Andy Pettitte, for example, who claims he used steroids in order to rehabilitate his arm and get back in the rotation for a struggling Yankees club. Is what he did any different in principle than injecting a cortisone shot? Besides the fact that steroids are illegal without a valid prescription, Pettitte was essentially accomplishing the same thing as a legal cortisone shot. He was injecting a foreign substance into his body in order to mask the pain of an injury in order to get back on the field.

Pettitte was doing what we want our favorite players to do.

We want them to be in the lineup every day or pitching every fifth. We don't want them sitting in the clubhouse whining about an injury and collecting a multi-million dollar paycheck. Pettitte, like Clemens, Piatt and many others, was being a competitor.

Baseball and the competition of the sport is all he has known his whole life and to see it slowly slipping away would be hard for anyone to handle.

That is why the fact that Major League Baseball, Congress, the media and the fans are acting surprised about the details of the steroid era might be more mind-boggling than the actual era itself.

Cheating has been a part of baseball since its inception. Players have corked bats, teams have sloped their base lines to aid prolific bunters and pitchers have scuffed baseballs in order to get a leg up on the batter for

decades. Put simply, steroids is just the modern-day form of all the other antiquated cheating methods just mentioned.

Once steroids are eliminated from the game, players are not going to stop cheating.

They will just move on to something else. There will be special contact lenses to see pitches and signals, computer chips to detect widespread patterns and earpieces to hear the catcher and get information from scouts all over the field. Baseball and its fans will one day need to deal with these new inventions too.

The real problem with steroids, then, is not the fact that players are using them, because — let's face it — we'd all do the same if it meant getting paid millions to play the game we love, but that steroids are dangerous and can cause serious damage if used improperly. But by making an example of all these famous players, baseball is not deterring youth from using and, in many cases, abusing steroids and HGH. In fact, it is doing the opposite.

"Use steroids and you'll end up like Roger Clemens! You'll be rich and famous with a beautiful wife and a luxurious 50-year retirement." That's the message that is being sent by the steroids witch-hunt, not a message of the importance of educating kids about the dangers of the drugs.



COURTESY OF WWW.EPOCHTIMES.COM
Clemens may be called a competitor, not a cheater.

Baseball should not condone steroids, but it needs to come to the realization of the fact that steroids and other forms of cheating will never go away. The best way to address the problem is not from the top down, as it is being handled now, because that just encourages a whole new generation to partake and try not to get caught. The best way to handle the situation is from the bottom up.

Major League Baseball, the National Football League and the media and fans that follow the two main sports of our country cannot ridicule players for getting hurt, to then turn around and disown them for their innate competitive spirit that drives them to use steroids.

Unfortunately, we want our athletes to be as competitive as they can be in every single game, and controversy will always be the result.

Advertisers!

The News-Letter
Lacrosse Guide
hits newstands
soon! To
reserve your
ad space,
contact us at:

business @ jhunewsletter.com

SPORTS

CHECK THIS OUT!

Philadelphia Phillies pitcher Kyle Kendrick was recently pranked by his teammates, who convinced him he had been traded to a Japanese team.

<http://sports.yahoo.com/mlb/rumors/post/-Trade-to-Japan-leaves-Kendrick-in-shock?urn=mlb%2C67246>

CALENDAR

SATURDAY

M. Lacrosse vs. Albany 12 p.m.
W. Basketball vs. Washington 1 p.m.
M. Basketball vs. Washington 3 p.m.

Men's basketball nets an early playoff berth

By MIKE SUMNER
News-Letter Staff Writer

This weekend, the Hopkins men's basketball team took its 9-6 record on the road to Pennsylvania, where they faced off against their longtime rivals, the Muhlenberg Mules. Both teams were fighting for a berth in the postseason. The Mules (now 8-8 in conference play) were hoping to inch closer to the Jays, who led Muhlenberg in the standings by a single game. However, the Jays had other plans. They dominated play in the second half, winning the game by a final score of 61-47. The win clinched a playoff spot for the Jays, ensuring their sixth consecutive appearance in the tournament.

Final
Muhlenberg 47
Hopkins 61

Muhlenberg began the game on the attack. For the Mules, sophomore Ryan Foster led the way in scoring. Midway through the first half, Foster was responsible for nine of the Mules' 15 points as they led the Jays 15-13. The Jays' Pat O'Connell re-



CONOR KEVIT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Senior forward Kevin Roach attempts to get a pass off past a Muhlenberg defender in Saturday's game.

sponded, hitting back-to-back buckets before sinking a pair of free throws. His six-point tear

put the Jays back on top, 18-15. Muhlenberg responded with a basket of their own, but it was

only met with another Hopkins streak, and the Jays extended their lead to seven with six more unanswered points. But the Mules were fighting for a playoff berth of their own and would not go quietly. Muhlenberg closed out the half with an impressive 8-2 run, which meant they trailed by a single point, 26-25, going into halftime.

The Mules carried the streak into the second half, reclaiming the lead from the Jays only 55 seconds into a half. However, like most of their leads that night, this one was short-lived. The Jays responded with the amazing performance of senior Kevin Roach. Roach tied the game at 31 with a free throw after he was fouled hard on a shot.

Almost immediately, junior Collin Kamm made a steal and an easy lay-up off the glass. A two-point deficit was the closest the Mules would come to the Jays for the rest of the game. The lead had got the Jays moving as they quickly extended their lead into double digits. The Jays then cruised to a 14-point lead.

CONTINUED ON PAGE B10

W. basketball comes up short in nail-biter

By KATIE MOODY
News-Letter Staff Writer

personal, victories.

Expectations were high when the women's basketball team headed to Allentown, Pa. on Saturday, Feb. 16 to face Muhlenberg in what was sure to be a royal rumble on the court. However, the Lady Jays could not return with a victory, as they fell to Muhlenberg with a final score of 57-52. Hopkins (10-12, 8-8) faced tough competition with the 18-5 Mules, and Muhlenberg's win on Saturday clinched them a spot in the Centennial playoffs. Despite some disappointment, Hopkins did not head back to Baltimore without some team, as well as

Coming out with a force from the very beginning, Muhlenberg got going early in the contest, running out to a 6-0 lead behind four points from their junior, Lauren Boyle. However, the Jays were not going to let them get off that easily, and they came back with a 13-0 run to take a 13-6 lead with just 14:25 to play in the first half. Senior forward Andrea Dodrill and sophomore guard Anastasia Wynn each had four points during the run, and tried to keep the Muhlenberg scoring to a minimum. The Mules tied the game at 15-15 only about three minutes later. For the

CONTINUED ON PAGE B10



CONOR KEVIT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Sophomore forward Monica Mitchell stretches up to tap away a rebounded shot.

INSIDE

Track:

One more for the books

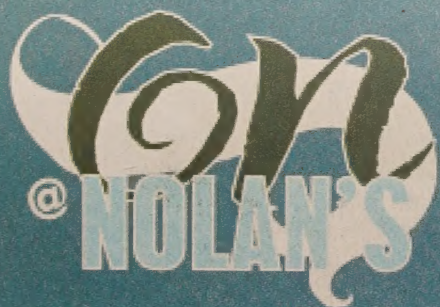
The track team headed up to Armory Track and Field Center in New York this past weekend to deliver another school record-breaking performance at the Lafayette Rider Games. Page B10.

Athlete of the Week: Brad Test

Brad Test has been receiving wide acclaim lately. He was recently mentioned in the *Baltimore Sun* as he strives to become the most decorated Hopkins swimmer of all time. Page B11.

The Steroid Edition: Two looks at Clemens

Columnists Demian Kendall and Max Dworin deliver their opinions on Roger Clemens, the steroid scandal, the face of major league baseball and more. Pages B10 and B11.



Visit us online for more about campus dining and events
jhu.campusdish.com

Sun, Feb. 24th - 5:45pm
Classic Movie Night

Annie



8:00 pm: 80th Annual Academy Awards
(Specials TBD)



LOST - Thursday, Feb 21st - 9pm

MONDAY

February 25 - 5-8pm

**Dinnertime
Jazz Jam**



**Coffee
Grounds**

Friday, Feb. 22 @ 10pm

COFFEE GROUNDS

Sponsored by the HOP
Free coffee & doughnuts

Tuesday - Feb. 26



7:00pm

Ohio State at Indiana

9:00pm

Tennessee at Vanderbilt

WATCH FOR MARCH MADNESS COMING NEXT MONTH!

WJHU {hopkins student radio}

Wednesday, Feb. 13 : WJHU Night at Nolan's:
WJHU broadcasting live; contests, games & Prizes...

NOLAN'S
ON 33RD

Nolan's Goes Quiet 4 Days a Week!

Monday - Thursday from 10pm to 1AM
Quiet Study Hours @ Nolan's!